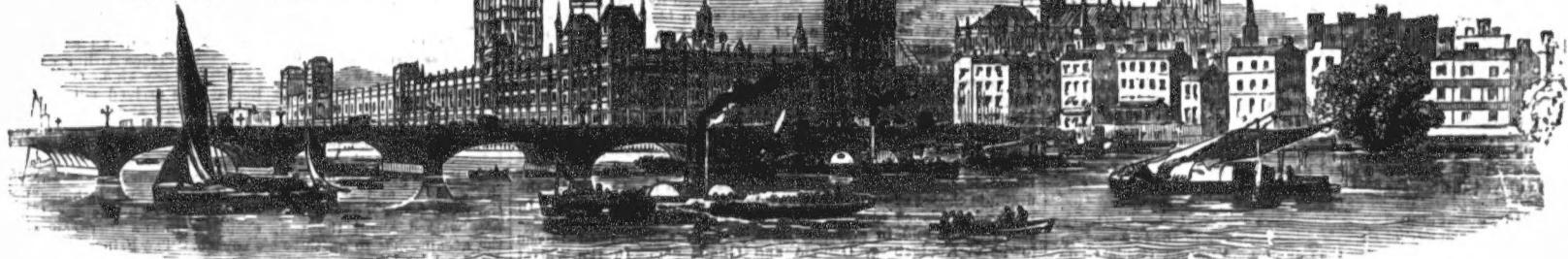


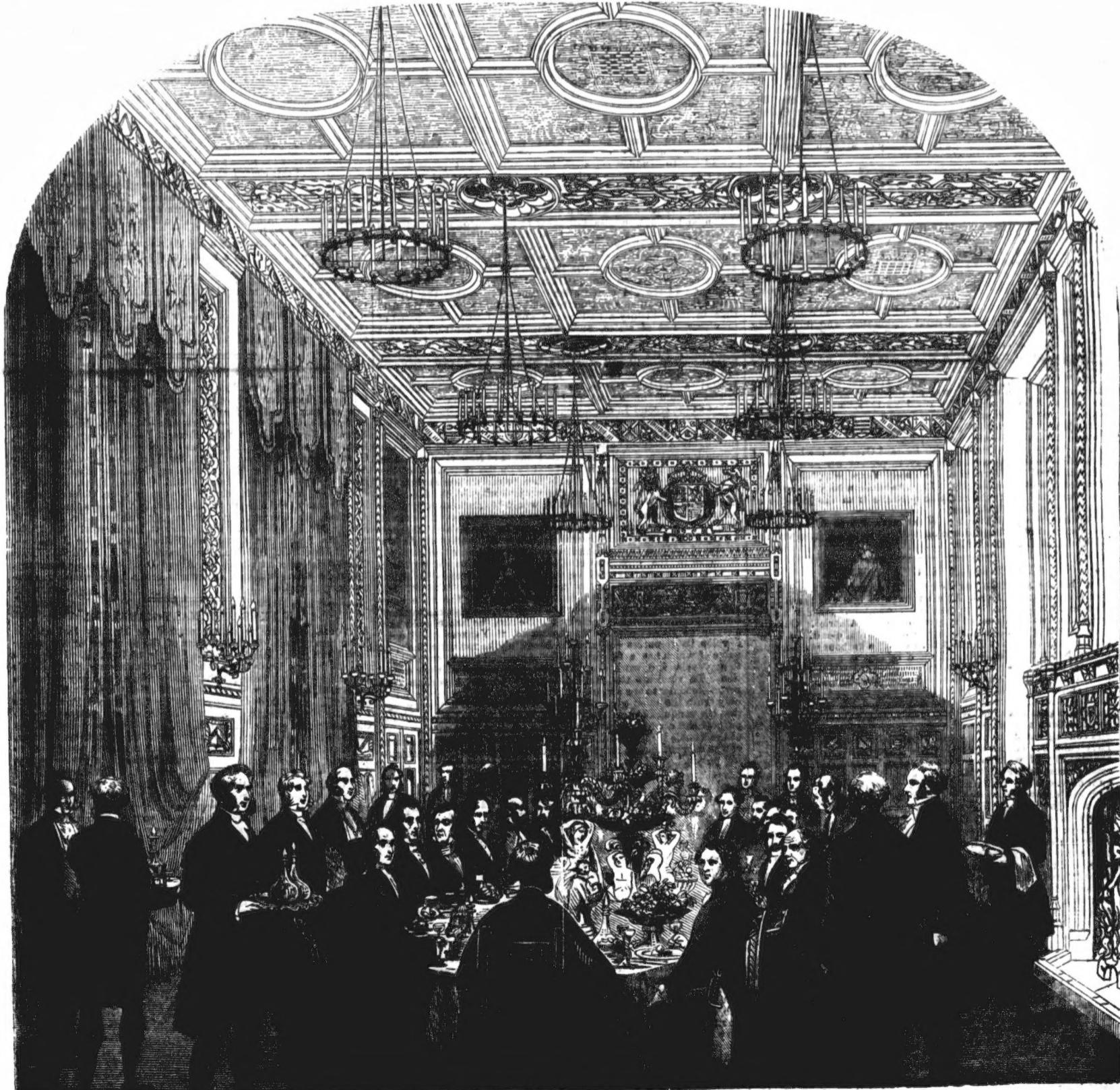
John Bull's ^{3/3d} *and*
**PENNY ILLUSTRATED
WEEKLY NEWS.**



No. 95.—VOL. II. NEW SERIES.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1865.

ONE PENNY.



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER'S FULL-DRESS PARLIAMENTARY DINNER. (See page 674.)

Notes of the Week.

We regret to announce the death of the Earl of Desart, who expired on Saturday, at his mansion, in Eton-square. His death resulted from the very severe injuries he had received on the previous Wednesday night, by accidentally falling down stairs as he was retiring to rest. From the first it was feared that the injuries would prove fatal. His late lordship continued in a state of insensibility up to his death. The lamented nobleman was the only child of James Otway, second Earl of Desart, in the peerage of Ireland, by Catherine, eldest daughter and co-heir of Mr. Maurice Nugent O'Connor, of Menai Pleasant, King's County. He was born the 12th of October, 1818, and married, the 28th of June, 1842, Lady Elizabeth Campbell, third daughter of the late Earl of Crawford and sister of the present peer, by whom he leaves issue three sons and an only daughter—namely, William, Viscount Castle Cuffe, born 10th July, 1845, in the Grenadier Guards; Hon. Hamilton, born 30th August, 1848; and Hon. Otway, born 11th January, 1853, and the Lady Alice, born 25th May, 1844, and married to the Hon. John Major Henniker, eldest son of Lord Henniker, M.P. The late earl was only two years of age when he succeeded to the family honours on his father's death. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford. At the general election in 1842 he was elected M.P. for Ipswich, but enjoyed the honour only a few weeks, having been unseated by a committee of the House of Commons in August of the same year. In 1846 he was elected a representative peer of Ireland. On the formation of the Earl of Derby's Administration in 1852, he was appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies. Viscount Castle Cuffe, as his eldest son, succeeds to the earldom.

A LIBEL case of a novel character has just been tried by the Correctional Tribunal of Auxerre (France). A rich man, aged sixty-nine, whose name the local journals veil under the initial L., was simultaneously prosecuted, and sued in a civil action, for having by anonymous letters and placards endeavoured to damage the character of two young girls in order to throw them out of work and so get them into his power. The Correctional Tribunal found that he was guilty, and sentenced him to a year's imprisonment, and to pay 6,000 francs (£240) damages to the girls.

The gun-cotton committee have been trying further experiments with this highly explosive material, and there seems to be every hope of its being used instead of powder, as a bursting charge for shells, and also as mine in the torpedoes and other similar vessels, which are expected to be largely employed in any future naval war.—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

THE Dean and Chapter of Carlisle have presented the Rev. Nicholas Freeze Yonge Keable, M.A., of University College, Durham, perpetual curate of Sebergham, to the incumbency of Hesket in the Forest; and the Rev. R. J. Adams, M.A., curate of Christ Church, Carlisle, to the incumbency of Sebergham, rendered vacant by Mr. Keable's preferment.

The Court.

On Saturday afternoon, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor, attended by Captain G. H. Grey and the Countess De Grey and Ripon, left Marlborough House and drove to the Paddington terminus, where their royal highnesses travelled in a saloon carriage attached to the five coaches down express train to Windsor, where the royal party arrived at 5.37 p.m.

A large number of the inhabitants of the town had congregated at the station to welcome their royal highnesses, who, on quitting the saloon, were received by Captain Bulkeley, one of the directors of the Great Western Railway (who had accompanied the train), and conducted to the carriage, which was drawn up outside the Queen's private waiting-room.

The little prince, who wore a white silk hat and a light blue cloak trimmed with mink, was an object of great attraction to the ladies. The whole of the royal party seemed in excellent health. The Prince and Princess bowed very graciously to the bystanders on the crowded platform, and then drove through the town to the Castle, to visit her Majesty.

Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir Edward Cast had the honour of an audience of the Queen on Monday, to present his new volume, "The Lives of the Warriors of the Thirty Years' War," which has been dedicated to her Maj. st. The presentation copy of the work was illustrated with photographic portraits from the galleries of Vienna, Munich, and Dresden.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor, returned to Marlborough House on Monday morning, from visiting the Queen at Windsor Castle.

SKETCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

Now that the American war seems to be approaching a crisis, our own possessions in North America have of late engrossed more than usual attention. We therefore present our readers with a series of views of places of interest in North America. Our first view is that of St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland. It is the most eastern seaport of North America. The harbour is one of the best in North America, being enclosed by two mountains, between the east points of which is the entrance, called "The Narrows," only ninety-five fathoms wide and one hundred fathoms long. This entrance is defended by enormous batteries and fortifications. It has twelve fathoms of water in mid-channel, but only one large vessel can pass at a time. Within there is ample room for shipping, and excellent anchorage. The town is situated on an scarp, and consists chiefly of one street about a mile long, rather irregularly built, but containing many fine stores and dwelling-houses, the majority of which are built of stone. As a general rule, the smaller houses are of brick, although in the upper parts they are built of wood. In 1846 a great fire raged in the city. It is lighted with gas, and well supplied with water. The principal buildings are the Government House, which cost about one hundred and ninety thousand dollars; the House of Assembly, a fine granite building; St. John's Church; a Catholic Cathedral, a Lunatic Asylum, Hospital, Market, Custom House, and numerous places of public worship. There are also a Botanic Garden, Marine Observatory, and three handsome Cemeteries. The British rule was established here in 1858.

The trade of St. John's consists chiefly in supplying the fishermen with clothing, provisions, hunting and sailing gear. During the spring season the harbour is crowded with vessels from London, Liverpool, Hamburg, Copenhagen, &c. The export fish trade commences early in August. The value of the imports is about two millions of dollars a year.

Our next view is Fort Hope Vidéot, on the great Canadian Railway, and is situated about 250 miles west of Montreal. We also give two illustrations of Ottawa, the capital of Canada, and the seat of its Government.

The Grand River, or Ottawa, divides Upper and Lower Canada, and enters the Lake of the Mountains about forty miles west of Montreal, after a course of 650 miles. It traverses several small lakes, and is connected with Lake Ontario by the Rideau Canal. Its navigation is much impeded by rapids and cataracts. The scenery of some parts of the Ottawa is truly magnificent, and its picturesqueness far surpassing the celebrated Lake of a Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence. The mountains along the north side of Deep River, a part of the Ottawa, are upwards of 1,000 feet in height. At this point the width of the Ottawa is more than half a mile, and its depth more than 100 feet.

Foreign News.

FRANCE.

Nearly all the Paris papers contain highly eulogistic articles on the late Mr. Cobden. The *Presse* appeared on Monday evening with a black border, out of respect for the deceased.

RUSSIA—THE PLAGUE.

The epidemic is still committing fearful ravages at St. Petersburg. Official returns as to the number of cases have altogether ceased of late; but from the large sums voted by the metropolitan authorities, or supplied by Government, some idea may be formed of the extent and virulence of the malady. Besides 200,000 roubles contributed by the Treasury, 400 additional beds have been placed at the disposal of the town, and large subscriptions made by the princes and aristocracy. The town, too, has opened a new hospital at the cost of 60,000 roubles, considerably augmenting at the same time the funds of the various charities, and aiding the convents in the care and reception of the sick. The malady is stated to have broken out originally on the other side of the Ural mountains, whence it slowly threaded its way towards St. Petersburg, increasing as it went, and culminating at length among the destitute classes of an unhealthy and densely populated capital. In its steady advance towards the west it has now reached the Prussian frontier, and, in a milder form, already shown itself in the towns of Königsberg, Danzig, and Gumbinnen. In the Wallachian hills, to the south-west of St. Petersburg, whole villages are said to have been depopulated.

AMERICA.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* writes as follows, under date March 23rd:—

"It is held that the last message of Mr. Davis to the Southern Congress was a virtual offer to surrender, provided that General Lee and General Grant should be allowed to settle the terms of reunion. Even if Mr. Lincoln refuse to entertain the proposition and insist that General Grant and his subordinates shall continue to fight, until nothing more is left to fight with, it is argued that the result will be practically the same—that in the one case the war will close without further carnage, and that in the other it will be brought to a violent and bloody, but none the less speedy and satisfactory, termination. It is edifying, though in no respect gratifying, to note that as the prospects of peace appear to brighten the friends and lovers of peace appear to diminish in number. Thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of influential people have waxed so fat upon the spoils and contracts, and the immense expenditures of the strife, that they dread the too sudden cessation of hostilities, lest peace should draw in its train worse evils to them than those of war—the evils of a financial revolution, and the consequent crash and disappearance of many a colossal and ill-gotten fortune. The rapid fall in gold—fifty per cent. within a month—has filled them with tribulation, and brought unpleasantly near to their vision the shadow of a fast approaching bankruptcy. In addition to these are the zealots, the doctrinaires, the war Christians—the friends of a strong nationality, and consequently the enemies of State rights and State sovereignty, who do not desire that the war should end by means of any compromise on the question of slavery, or by the re-establishment of the old constitution. They desire that the United States should assume a distinctive name and become for the first time in their history a nation 'one and indivisible,' composed of provinces, not of states, and governed from a centre, like Great Britain, France, or Russia. A third party, composed of leading Democrats, with a large following—both Americans and Hibernians—look with ill-concealed disgust upon the conquest of the South, and cling to the opinion that a war against a foreign Power, in which Northern and Southern armies would unite, with Lee for the generalissimo and Grant as the second in command, would tend to obliterate from the minds of the Southern people the bitter memories and animosities of four unhappy years, and help to build up a truer and more thoroughly American nationality than can be constructed out of the political, social, and philanthropical elements of New England. The favourite idea of this party is immediately on the restoration of the Union, by the surrender or defeat of Lee, to declare war against the Emperor Maximilian. Wild as the project may be considered in Europe, there can be no doubt that it would be exceedingly popular in America. Already the indications are numerous that there would be no need of large offers of bounty-money to raise an army for such a purpose, and that a blow in this quarter would send southwards a swarm of soldiers, to which the present war has offered no parallel. A move in the direction of Canada would also be popular; but as the Americans believe, not only that Canada is theirs as soon as they are ready to ask for or to take it, but that all things considered, it is better worth having for the honour and the glory than for the profit or advantage, the Mexican venture has far greater charms in their eyes. Mexico, the land of gold and silver—the richest country in the world, if Yankees could only develop its resources—Mexico the beautiful, the romantic, the very name of which has a fascination for American youth, with which to cast spells and work enchantments—is the goal of their ambition. To vindicate the Monroe doctrine—to oust a *parvenu* emperor—to show to the awe-struck world that the Yankees can not only crush the most gigantic rebellion ever known in history, but that the vanquished and the victors can join hands for a common purpose and crumple up a foreign foe with less than a tenth part of the trouble it took to subdue a domestic one—such is the dream of the moment amid a large portion of this excitable and unseasoning people."

DEATH OF MR. JOHN CASSELL.—We record with deep regret the death of the well-known publisher, Mr. John Cassell, who expired at his residence in Avenue-road, Regent's-park, London, on Sunday last, April 2nd. Born in Manchester on the 23rd of January, 1817, he had expired at the early age of forty-eight, leaving a widow and a wide circle of friends to lament his loss.

HYDROPHOBIA.—In connexion with the Bill, which passed its second reading in the House of Commons, for lessening the mischief occasioned to flocks in Ireland by vagrant dogs, Professor Gamgee publishes some interesting remarks on the spread of hydrophobia and other less, but still very real, evils in this country, from the number of dogs which are allowed to roam about at will. He says:—"It is impossible to estimate the serious amount of loss in life and property incurred by the people in Ireland from the dog nuisance. Swarms of parasites infest the bodies of cattle, sheep, and pigs, which they derive from dogs. Many animals are doubtlessly worried, and a very considerable number of men and animals are annually bitten and inoculated with the rabid virus." Hydrophobia in man is increasing in Ireland. For the ten years ending 1841 thirty-one cases of death from this cause are reported. In 1851 the number had risen to fifty-seven, and in 1861 to sixty-one. This is very different to what we find in England, where the deaths from hydrophobia have gone down year by year, from twenty-five in 1851 to three in 1860. In Scotland, even allowing for the smaller population, the number is still smaller. Professor Gamgee points out two facts in connexion with this dreadful disease—that it is never spontaneously developed, but only producible by the bite of an animal already affected; and that so far from cases being confined to hot weather, as is generally supposed, they are much more frequent in winter than in summer.

General News.

THE Spanish journals seem to have quite made up their minds that the Pope intends to quit Rome very soon. Some offer him the Balearic islands as a place of refuge; others, the palace of the Duke of Montpensier, at Seville. The liberal organs, however, are not at all pleased with the prospect of His Holiness taking up his quarters in Spain. The *Independance Belge* says that the Court of Rome is divided into two camps. One is of opinion that the Pope ought to remain and become, according to circumstances, a martyr to the violence of the people, or the oppressor of its liberties; the other thinks that he ought to depart directly the French troops leave the city, and establish his authority at Regusa, Malta, or the Balearic Isles.

A MALTA correspondent says:—"Contrary to all expectations notice was given that His Royal Highness Prince Arthur was to be received without any honours or salutes of any kind. On the night of the 16th her Majesty's ship *Entreprenant* arrived with his royal highness on board. He landed next morning, and proceeded to the palace, after which he quietly walked out with the governor to see all the sights of the place, courteously returning the salutes of the inhabitants. In the afternoon there was a review of the troops. The Prince rode round the troops, accompanied by the governor, the general, and their staffs, all the idlers and fashionables of the place being on the parade. On the 18th his royal highness walked about the town shopping in the afternoon, and in the evening left to continue his voyage. The Prince left the next day for Jaffa."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Independance Belge*, writing from Rome on the 21st ult., says that the English are doing all in their power to induce the Pope to take refuge in Malta, but that His Holiness is disinclined to accept the hospitality of heretical England, and would only do so on condition of her Majesty Queen Victoria becoming a Catholic!

A MELANCHOLY case of drowning occurred in the river Trent, below Colwick Weir. About dark one of Mr. Musters' game watchers had his attention called to a boat, which was floating keel upwards, and a short distance off he observed a man struggling in the water, a woman struggling in the water, the man calling out, "Give us help." The keeper immediately threw off his coat, but instantly both the persons sank in the water, and were beyond the reach of rescue. It was afterwards ascertained that the unfortunate persons were Mr. Simpson, a surgeon dentist, and his niece, who had had a pleasure-boat and gone out for a short sail.

We are authorised to state that there is no truth whatever in the report published by the *Court Journal*, and since copied far and wide, that the Prince of Wales was robbed of his watch at the Spring Steeplechases here. Neither the Prince of Wales nor any other prince lost his watch or any other property on that occasion. We believe that his royal highness is not a little annoyed by the circulation of this canard, as it seems to reflect somewhat upon his shrewdness that he should be unable to attend a race meeting without meeting with a disaster of this nature. It is due, therefore, to his royal highness, to the race committee, and to the clerk of the course, that the fullest publicity should be given to this contradiction.—*Chertsey Mail*.

ATTWOOD AND SPOONER'S Banking-house at Birmingham was reopened on Monday as a branch of the Birmingham Joint-Stock Bank (limited).

It is said that the Emperor Napoleon will leave Paris early in May, and will not return till next November, his physicians having recommended a seven months' absence from Paris in country air.

AMONG the overseers appointed for the MacColes' union for the ensuing year is Mrs. Margaret Lucas, who has been unanimously chosen to represent the township of Marton.

THE SPEAKER'S DINNER.

The Right Hon. the Speaker gave his seventh parliamentary full-dress dinner on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., an illustration of which will be found on our front page. The following noblemen and gentlemen were present:—Viscount Hamilton, Lord Edward Howard, Lord Fred Fitzroy, Lord George Cavendish, Hon. Charles Howard, Hon. Colonel Annesley, Hon. Fred Leveson Gower, Sir Edward Desart, Bart., Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., Sir Alex. Hood, Bart., Sir Minto Fazaker, Bart., Sir Fred Heygate, Bart., Colonel Clifford, Major Gavin, Colonel Fane, Mr. W. O. Foster, Colonel French, Mr. W. R. Ormsby Gore, Colonel Oupis, Mr. Hanbury, Colonel F. H. Bathurst, Mr. Hardcastle, Captain Archdale, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Ayton, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Henry B. Baring, Mr. Halford, Mr. Albert Bathurst, Mr. Horsfall, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Beach, Mr. Cavendish Clifford, Mr. Butler Johnstone, Mr. Colling, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Granfield, Mr. Fellowes; Rev. Charles Merivale, chaplain; Mr. Alfred Denison, private secretary. The right hon. gentleman afterwards held a levee, which was numerously attended.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MARRIAGE.

A PECCULARLY strange scene occurred on Monday last at Old Lakenham Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Alder Heffill, jun., with Miss Elizabeth Steeple, of London. It appears that the father's family are in the habit of attending St. Stephen's Church, and being desirous that the marriage ceremony should be performed by the Rev. G. Baldwin, who officiates at St. Stephen's, permission was asked and given by the Rev. Alfred Pownall, the vicar, for Mr. Baldwin to perform the ceremony, the parties living in Old Lakenham parish. Accordingly, on Monday morning, all the parties attended at the church—minister, bride, and bridegroom, and their friends—when, to their dismay, the church was found to be closed, and no sexton or clerk present to assist in the ceremony. After waiting some time in the cold, and trying in vain to find the officials, the key of the church was obtained, when fresh difficulties presented themselves—the vestry was closed also. What was to be done? Force the vestry-room door. This having been accomplished, it was found that there were neither surplices nor books, and the affair seemed as far as ever from being completed, when a thought occurred to one of the parties that a sheet should be borrowed, and the marriage proceeded with. This was soon done, and the Rev. G. Baldwin, having been arrayed in the sheet, with the aid of a pin or two here and there, proceeded to unite the parties in the bonds of matrimony, and after having sent to the clergyman's house for the parish registers, the party amusing themselves meanwhile by ringing a peal on the three bells of the church, the happy couple were at length enabled to proceed on their wedding trip. As to the reason of the church being closed against the parties after permission had been given for its use, no explanation seems to have been given; but it appears that the Rev. A. Pownall waxed wrath at the strange proceedings which had taken place in his church, and accordingly the following bill was passed, calling together his congregation and the friends of order in the church:—"Lakenham Church.—A solemn service will be held in Lakenham Church on Friday, the 24th instant, to avert the wrath of Almighty God, and to depose His righteous judgments, in consequence of the profanation of His sanctuary on Monday last Divine service will commence at 1.30 p.m. Ezekiel v. 11.—ALFRED POWELL, vicar." A very small congregation was present, and the vicar preached a sermon from the above text. We shall, doubtless, hear more of this case, as it is certain to be brought before the bishop; and many parties have taken a more than ordinary interest in the affair. We are informed that the brother of the bridegroom purchased the sheet in which the rev. gentleman officiated, and brought it away with him.—*Egypt Post*.

SHOCKING BARBARITY TO A SERVANT GIRL.

At the Norwich Assizes, Jane Smith, a lodgings-house keeper, of Great Yarmouth, was charged with the murder of one Martha Turner, her servant, at Great Yarmouth, on the 27th of February last.

Mr. Metcalfe and Mr. S. Reeves appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Bulwer for the defence.

The deceased had been a servant to the prisoner, and died in Lingwood workhouse in a very emaciated and shocking condition in February. On her death-bed she made a statement in the presence of Mr. Jary, a county magistrate, in which she detailed great ill-treatment on the part of the prisoner. She appeared at the time aware of what she was doing when she made the statement, although it was contended for the defence that she was a person of weak intellect, and not to be relied on. When the deceased's statement was being made to Mr. Jary, he asked her if what she said was true why she did not run away, and she made a reply, which was introduced into the statement. She could not sign the statement, because her hands were in such a dreadful condition that it was physically impossible for her to do so.

A long argument took place as to whether the statement was admissible as evidence.

Mr. Justice Smith said he did not think it was entitled, from the circumstances under which it was taken, to the usual weight of a dying declaration; but it was difficult to say that it was altogether inadmissible; the jury must take it with all concomitant circumstances.

It was agreed that Mr. Jary should state in evidence what the deceased had said to him. He accordingly deposed that the deceased told him she had been living in the service of the prisoner. She said she was to have 1s. per week for her services, but that she had only received 1s., in all during a year and a half. She had, however, been given a pair of boots and two caps. She said she had had no meat or pudding for food, and that she could not get away because her mistress locked the door; that her mistress only allowed her half a slice of bread per day; that she had been sleeping in a damp cellar, with only a coverlet to cover her; that during an illness her mistress only visited her once a day, and that was for the purpose of giving her her day's bread; that for a fortnight she was lying on the damp bricks, and saw no one but her mistress; that she had never slept on a proper bed during the whole time she was in the prisoner's service; that her bed was an old shawl, filled with straw, and that she had only an old counterpane to cover her; that she had always been subjected to her mistress's ill-treatment since she first entered her service; that her mistress had struck her on the chin, and other parts of her person, with her fist; that her mistress would never allow her to leave the house when she wanted to do so.

Mrs. Homes, a widow, who had been in the habit of rendering assistance to the prisoner, was called, and stated that she had on one occasion gone for some money due to her. She heard the deceased come to the door. She said she could not open it because her mistress was not at home. She had seen the deceased and had noticed that she looked pale and ill. One evening she was sent for to nurse the prisoner. She found the prisoner in bed in a bedroom next to the dining-room, on the ground-floor. The next day she was moved down into the kitchen. She then told the witness to give the deceased some dripping and bread in the scullery. The witness, however, interpreted the order liberally, and gave the prisoner some tea and bread and butter. The prisoner did not know what had been done. She did not see anything more given to the deceased during the day. The prisoner said the deceased was a lazy old beast. She was called "Old Ann." The next day the witness did not see the deceased have anything given to her; she had only what she could get out of the plates sent down by the lodgers. The deceased slept in the scullery on a straw bed, with an old counterpane over it. The bed lay on very damp bricks. Things were washed up in the scullery. Some time afterwards, the prisoner who had then moved into another house, invited the witness to take tea with her on a Sunday evening. She then said that "Old Ann had left, and she was afraid she would get her into trouble; would the witness speak in her behalf?" The witness said she had not been in the house long, and she could not, therefore, comply with the request. On the Tuesday after the girl died, the prisoner came to the witness again and said, "The old beast, Ann, is dead." She appeared in great trouble, and asked the witness again to speak for her. She refused to do so. The prisoner said the police had been to her.

In cross-examination the witness said while she was attending to the prisoner the deceased was sent out for beer, &c. The deceased had also opened the house door to the witness on more than one occasion.

Mary Chaplin said she had been in the service of the prisoner one month, the greater part of the time in Brandon-terrace, and two or three days in Marlpit-terrace. The deceased slept on a straw bed, in the back kitchen. The bed lay on brick, which were very damp. The straw was encased in bed-tick. There was only a counterpane on the bed; no sheets, blankets, or pillows. In the day time the bed was taken into a knife-house in the yard, and it was brought out again at night. The deceased had bread and dripping to eat at each meal. She had sometimes only two meals a-day, sometimes three. The first meal was generally at eleven. The deceased generally began work at six a.m. The deceased had sometimes nothing till two o'clock, and then she had tea about nine o'clock. She had frequently nothing till two o'clock. She then received only one half-slice cut from a quartet loaf, about an inch thick. The third meal was of the same description. When the deceased had only two meals she had no breakfast. The deceased was allowed to have as much dripping as she liked. She helped herself to it. It was beef dripping. When the slice was cut off the loaf it was taken into the pantry again and looked up, so that the deceased had no means of getting to it. The deceased had a cake sometimes made of flour and fat from fried fish. On one occasion she saw the deceased clean the fender in the back kitchen. The prisoner went in, kicked her over with her foot, and "chucked" her up again. The deceased fell over the fender into the grate; she cried, but did not appear to be hurt. She (witness) had heard the prisoner threaten the deceased. The prisoner asked her one day what she was going to say to her mother. The deceased said, "I shall tell her I have got a good mistress and a good home." The prisoner said, "If you don't, I'll give it to you;" at the same time holding up her finger in a threatening manner. The witness had heard the prisoner say this twice. On one occasion the deceased was cleaning some fish for dinner; she took the gills out of a fish and ate them raw. She appeared to be very hungry. The legs of the deceased were very much swelled up to the knees; she had nothing but an old pair of slippers to use; she could not have worn boots if she had had them. She was always upon her feet from morning till night. She was a girl of very weak mind; the prisoner used to say she was silly. She was only twenty-four years of age, but she was always called "old Ann."

Caroline Harvey, another servant of the prisoner, said she had lived with her about six weeks. The deceased slept on an old shawl stuffed with shavings or straw, on the bricks of the back kitchen. She had seen the prisoner with a whip in her hand, and had seen her whip the deceased over the arms, shoulders, back, &c. She had heard the deceased scream out loudly. On one occasion the deceased was cleaning knives in the scullery when the prisoner snatched the knife in her hand from her, and inflicted with it a bad wound on one of the wrists of the deceased. Some sticking-plaster was put on the wounded wrist, but the prisoner afterwards tore the plaster off. The wound was then in a very bad state, and was not healed when

the witness left three weeks afterwards. The hands of the deceased were chapped, and witness gave her some glycerine. The deceased used it for a day or two, and then the prisoner found out what she had been doing, and smashed the bottle of glycerine. The prisoner also flogged the deceased afterwards. Sometimes the deceased had only one slice of bread and dripping in a day; sometimes she had nothing all day. On one occasion the deceased went without food for three days, except what the witness gave her from the lodgers' plates. Miss Smith did not know anything had been given to the deceased. The witness had seen the deceased eat crumbs which she swept off the floors. While this ill-treatment was going on the lodgers in the house comprised Sir Thomas and Lady Seaton, Mr. Miller, chief registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy, &c. Witness had mentioned what went on to Mr. Miller's servant. The deceased went out sometimes. Witness left Miss Smith's service because she could not bear to see the ill-treatment any longer. She did not get her wages. She had nothing to complain of as she lived at Miss Smith's table.

Mrs. Knox, wife of a baker, said the deceased had often come to her shop with orders from the prisoner. In consequence of what the deceased said, she had sometimes given her small loaves. She had also eaten voraciously scraps of food off plates, potato peelings, &c., in witness's house. This took place very often. She ate the refuse just as a cat or dog would.

A surgeon having given evidence that the girl had died through bad treatment, the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty" against the prisoner.

EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL IN FRANCE—ACQUITTAL OF A SELF-COIFFED MURDERER.

The Court of Assizes of the Aveyron has tried a young man, named Giraud Ser, aged 24, on a charge of baving, on the 9th of January last, murdered a young farmer, named Trenty, both of them residing at Foissac. It appears from the indictment that an improper intimacy had for some years subsisted between Trenty and the prisoner's sister Gabrielle. The prisoner was much annoyed at this, and gave Trenty to understand that he must either discontinue his visits or marry. In May last the prisoner threatened to take summary vengeance on Trenty if he did not do one or the other, and, moreover, backed up his threats by the cogent arguments of a double-barrelled gun and a brace of pistols, which he said he was prepared to use. Thus pressed, Trenty consented to be married, and the marriage contract was duly drawn up and signed; but though Trenty received 1,000fr. (£10) of the 2,700fr. forming the young woman's wedding portion, he constantly deferred the wedding. The prisoner, who had been some months absent from Foissac, returned thither in January last, and demanded a private interview with Trenty, at a cafe, where he happened to meet him. Trenty, however, refused to see him in private. The prisoner then withdrew, and soon after returned with a gun and other sporting accoutrements. He again pressed Trenty to grant him a few minutes' conversation, and they withdrew together into a private room. Soon afterwards two shots were heard, and Trenty was found lying dead on the floor. The prisoner had made his escape. He was, however, soon arrested, and when interrogated pretended that the first barrel had gone off accidentally, wounding Trenty in the back, and that the other had been discharged by his falling against it. The direction of the wound, however, showed that this story could not be true; and several witnesses stated that the prisoner had boasted to them of having shot Trenty intentionally. In court the prisoner retracted his first confession, and frankly owned that he had fired at Trenty under the excitement caused by his insulting language, but without intending to kill him. The jury, carried away by the eloquence of M. Lachaud, who was brought from Paris to Rhômes to defend the prisoner, brought in a verdict of absolute acquittal, and the court had no alternative but to set the murderer at liberty.

A Paris correspondent observes:—"This is one of the many shocking instances of the cheapness at which human life is held in France whenever there is the slightest halo of romance about a murderer. It is very pretty, no doubt, and the theme will always bring down the galleries at the Theatre of the Porte St. Martin, to excuse the ungovernable anger of an ingenuous youth jealous of his sister's honour. But in this case the country lass in question had no less than three illegitimate children by her lover. Even admitting, therefore, the dreadful doctrine of the legitimacy of assassination to revenge private wrongs in extreme cases, it is very hard to show any pressing necessity for a murder in this particular instance. The champion of his sister's long tarnished honour only attained a positive promise of marriage by the display of a pistol—that pistol which he ultimately used. A stronger case of deliberate intent was never proved before any jury, and although I would be sorry to go against trial by jury, even in France, I must say that such acquittals as that at Rhodes, where the setting at large of a murderer is the crowning entertainment of the *jeûne* which the presence in the provinces of a brilliant advocate of the Paris bar always provokes, argues a lamentably loose state of public morality. The verdict in Ser's case is a manifest encouragement to all those, and there are many, who fancy that every individual is the proper judge of the remedy for his own wrongs. It is a palpable retrograde step towards that lawless state which always commands poetical admiration—when wild in woods the noble savage ran."

THE EFFECT OF NOVEL READING.—The captain of the ship John Allen, lately arrived from Calcutta, has reported losing two of his apprentice boys on his passage along the coast. The boys, he states, had been reading "*Robinson Crusoe*," "*Monte Christo*," and such like books, and had become possessed of some romantic notion of desert life in consequence. The ship had been steering close inshore during several days, and one morning, when they were wanted for some duty or other, the boys were not to be found. The ship was searched throughout, but there was nothing discovered to indicate their whereabouts. One of the ship's life-boats, however, had been cut adrift. The ship was at the time fifteen miles from the land, having altered her course to clear a reef; and from what the captain could gather, the boys, he thinks, must have imagined that the ship was still close to inshore, and had jumped overboard with the buoy, hoping to be picked up in the morning by some of the boats which put off to ships with fruit and such like things, all along the coast. They had been borrowing small sums of money from their abettors, and talking of their desire to remain in the country some days before they disappeared. The captain is exceedingly distressed at their loss, the more so that the sea in the neighbourhood abounds with sharks, and it could only be by a miracle that their lives would be saved if they went overboard in the manner supposed. The captain cruised about the spot for two days, keeping men at the mastheads with glasses, hoping to find some trace of the unfortunate boys, but without success. Their parents are said to be in very respectable circumstances, and the boys were great favourites with their shipmates.—*Times of India*.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST THE HEAD MASTER OF DERBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The Rev. Dr. Leary, the head master of the Derby Grammar School, was summoned on Saturday by his late servant, Maria Gee, to show cause why he should not be adjudged to be the father of her male bastard child. Mr. Ormsby supported the application, and Mr. S. Lovell appeared on the part of Dr. Leary. After the examination of several witnesses, two of the magistrates proceeded to take the evidence of a person who was unable to come into court from illness. On their return, the mayor said that the bench had decided that there was not sufficient evidence to fix the paternity upon Dr. Leary. This decision was received with hisses and cries of "Shame."

CHARGE AGAINST A MEDICAL MAN IN GLASGOW.—Dr. E. W. PRITCHARD of Glasgow, has been taken into custody at the hands of the authorities. It appears that Mrs. Pritchard some six weeks ago was seized with illness, her complaint being described by her husband as gastric fever. Mrs. Taylor, her mother-in-law, came from Edinburgh to wait upon her, and of course resided in Dr. Pritchard's house. About five weeks since Mrs. Taylor was one evening suddenly seized with severe illness, and despite of the efforts of a medical gentleman whose aid was called in, died within a few hours. Her body was removed to Edinburgh and there interred. As for Mrs. Pritchard, she appeared for some time to be in a fair way of recovery. She had a relapse, when she was attended by the same doctor whose services had been engaged for her mother. But in this case also medical skill proved of no avail, and death supervened somewhat suddenly on the Saturday. Dr. Pritchard conveyed his wife's remains to Edinburgh on the Monday, although the interment was not intended to take place till the next Thursday. Meanwhile, the attention of the authorities had been somehow or other called to the case as one which called for investigation, and the result was that the doctor, on his return from Edinburgh, was apprehended by the police at the railway-station.

A girl about eighteen years of age, named Mary McLoad, who has been in the doctor's service for some two years in the capacity of housemaid, has since been apprehended by the police. It would appear that there has been an illicit connexion between her and the prisoner in times past; and it is said she has been heard to boast that if Mrs. Pritchard were to die it was not unlikely that she might occupy her place. The authorities at Glasgow received a communication from Professor MacLagan, in which he stated that antimony has been found abundantly in the liver, spleen, and intestines of the late Mrs. Pritchard. The quantitative analysis was not then completed. A warrant was issued for the exhumation of the body of the late Mrs. Taylor. One suspicious circumstance which is spoken to by one of the servants is that Mrs. Pritchard and Mrs. Taylor seemed somehow to become distrustful as to the food supplied to the former. The consequence of this was that Mrs. Taylor undertook personally the preparation of what was supplied to her daughter, and continued to do so up to the time of her own death. Then, again, another maid-servant states that on the Monday before the Saturday on which Mrs. Pritchard died she happened to taste a piece of cheese which had been sent down from that lady, and subsequently felt a burning sensation in the throat, which was followed by sickness and vomiting. On the succeeding Wednesday this same girl was asked by Dr. Pritchard to prepare an egg-flip for her mistress. The doctor himself put in the sugar, and the girl alleges that, having tasted the mixture just before it was sent up to the patient, she was again attacked, and that more violently than before, with sickness and vomiting. The mixture in question, however, was not eaten by Mrs. Pritchard, for it is stated that immediately on tasting it she ordered it to be taken away. Another point which derives significance from the discovery of antimony in the body is the denial which Dr. Pritchard is understood to have given when asked if he had ever administered that poison either medically or otherwise to his wife. Meanwhile, in the face of these suspicious circumstances, no intelligible motive can be discovered for the perpetration of murder, if the crime has really been committed. It is true that one of the servant girls, with whom the doctor was too familiar, has been in the habit of boasting that she might one day be Mrs. Pritchard; but it seems inconceivable that a man in Pritchard's position should resolve to get rid of his wife in order to put in her place an unpolished country girl. As to money matters, which have been mentioned in the case, it appears that Mrs. Taylor left £2,000 by will to Mrs. Pritchard. The money was to be held by trustees for Mrs. Pritchard in life-rent, and for her children in fee, and in the event of Mrs. Pritchard's death the interest was to be paid to the doctor for the upbringing of his family. In this respect, therefore, it is difficult to see how Dr. Pritchard could reap any advantage from the death of his wife. Taking the whole circumstances into account, it will be readily understood that the case is creating no small amount of speculation.

Dr. Pritchard was however fully committed for trial on a charge of murder. A number of articles of bed and body clothing, worn by the late Mrs. Pritchard in her last illness, were despatched to Edinburgh for analysis by Professor MacLagan. Most of the articles, and more especially the body clothes, present certain stains, and it is deemed desirable that these should be examined, with a view to discover whether or not they bear traces of poison.

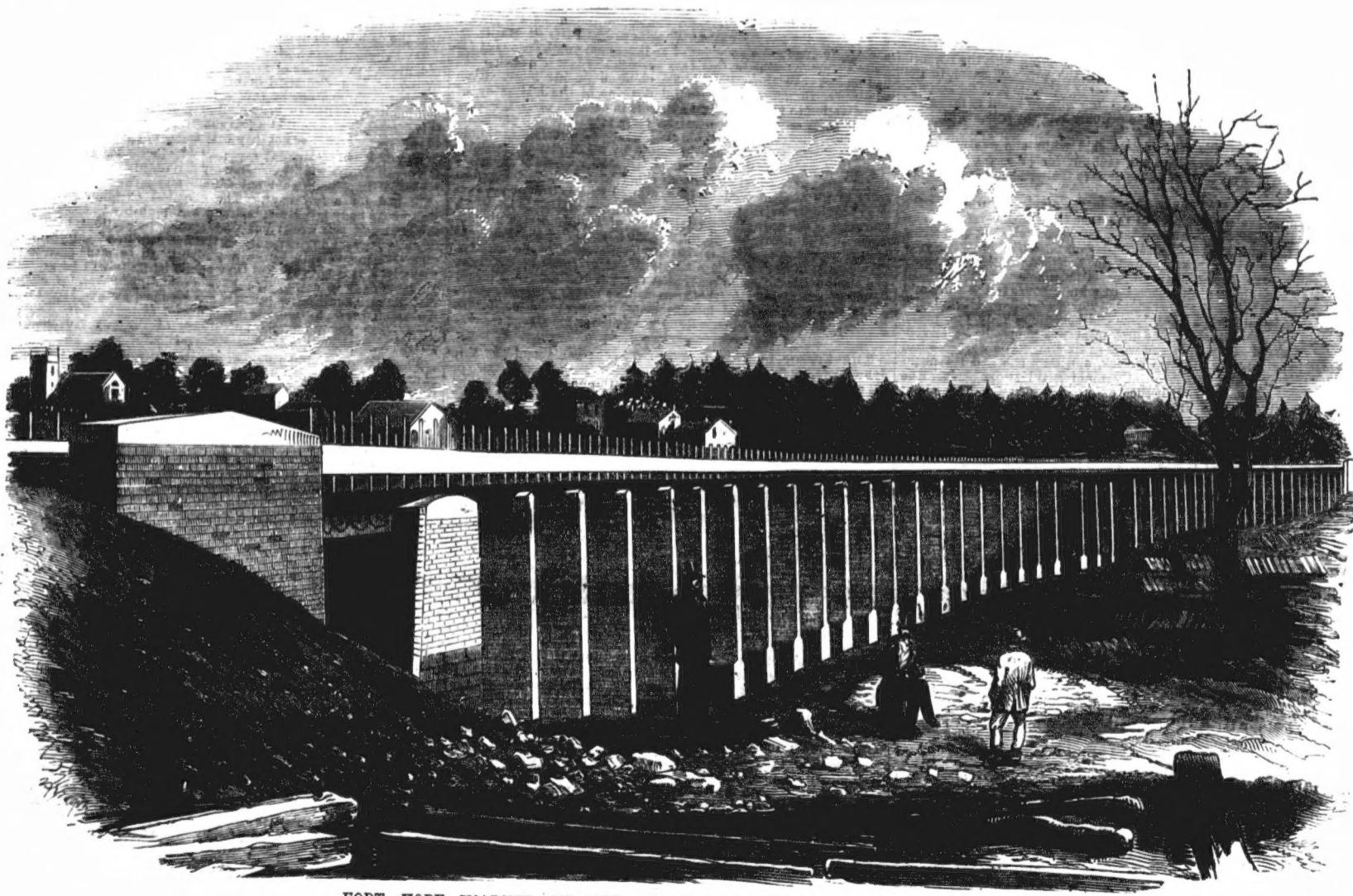
The *Scotsman* of Monday says:—"The particular stage at which the investigation in this complicated and exciting case has arrived renders it impossible that any definite statement of results can be published for a few days. The chemical examination of Mrs. Pritchard's body is proceeding, and will probably be completed in the course of this week; but very special precautions have been taken to prevent any exposure of the first results obtained, and, as some time must elapse before any report will be made even to the authorities, it is not expected that public curiosity will be gratified for some days to come. We have grounds, however, for stating that the case against the prisoner has assumed a grave aspect from the result of a post-mortem examination alone of Mrs. Taylor's body. The condition and appearance of the organs denoted no serious or fatal illness of a natural character."

The *Glasgow Morning Journal* of Saturday says:—"In the course of our inquiries yesterday a fact or two came to our knowledge, the importance of which in a painful investigation like the present it would be difficult to over estimate. Hitherto little or no direct proof has been brought forward of the accused being in possession of satirical preparations in any considerable quantity, or, indeed, of having them at all. The sale-books of the druggists with whom he was in the habit of dealing throw, it is understood, but little light on the matter; and if the police officials have found the drug in any form in his surgery, this information has, of course, been judiciously kept secret. There can be no doubt, however, after what we have learnt, that for several weeks past Dr. Pritchard was really in possession of tartarized antimony, and this, moreover, in unusually large quantities, purchased by himself at the establishment of a respectable wholesale druggist in town. We believe we are within the mark in stating that not less than two ounces of this medicine was thus procured by him within the space of two months. Another somewhat striking circumstance is that a few days before the death of Mrs. Taylor he was supplied from the same warehouse with a goodly quantity of 'Fleming's' tincture of saponite,—a medicine, we understand, possessed of virulently poisonous qualities when administered internally. It is quite true that both of the drugs mentioned are largely used in the healing art, but it is not easy to guess at first sight what need any surgeon in private practice could have for great quantities of them, more especially of the tartar emetic. A very free use of antimony as an outward application might, perhaps, partially explain the necessity for purchases so unusually large, but we are led to understand that any such practice has been of late years almost completely laid aside by medical practitioners who keep pace with the pharmaceutical improvements of the day, as we may reasonably assume Dr. Pritchard to have done. A grave question, then, our readers will perceive, must now arise as to what has become of the powerful poisons which the accused is known to have bought."

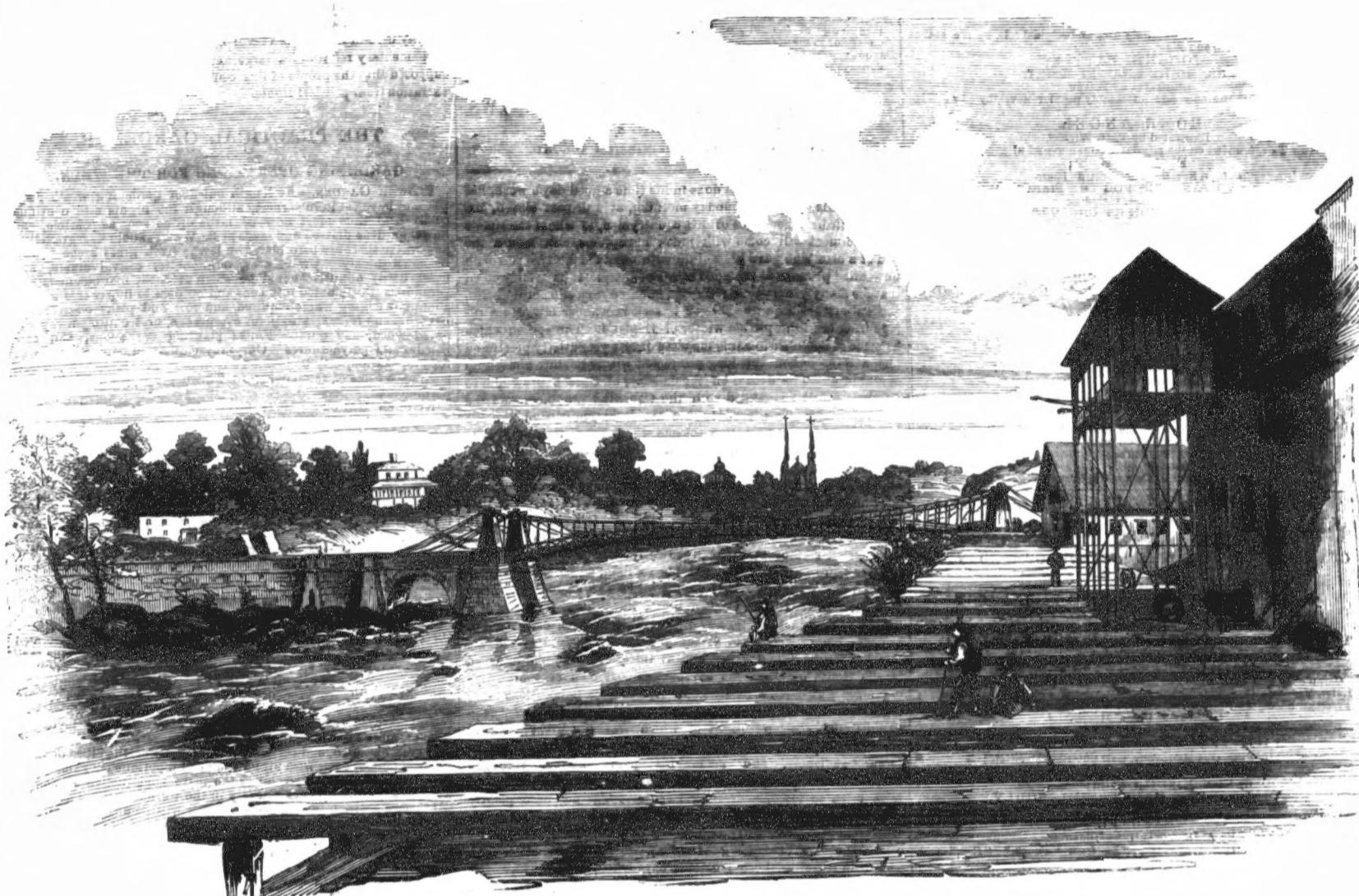
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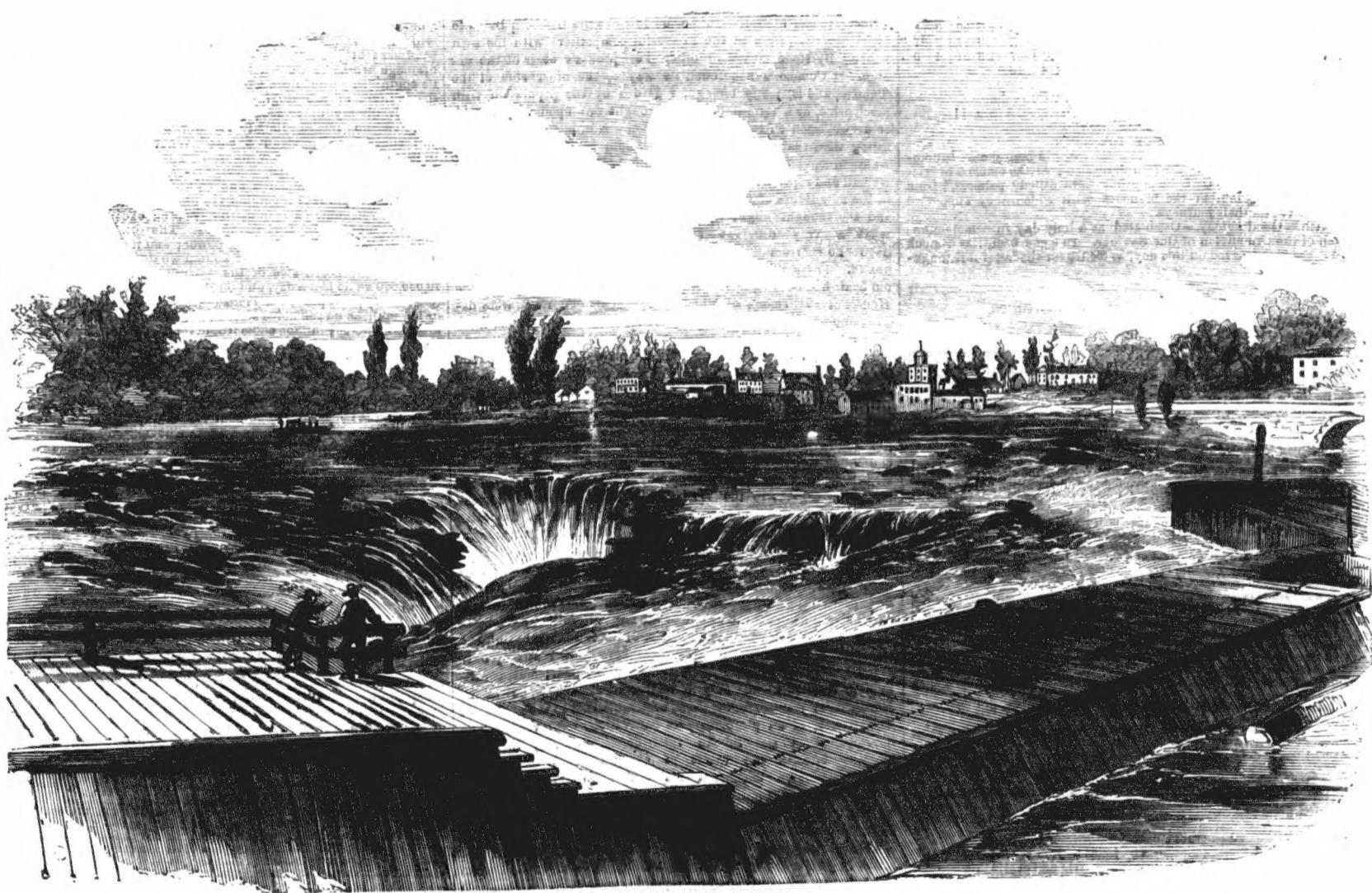
SKETCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.—ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND. (See page 674.)



FORT HOPE VIADUCT ON THE GREAT CANADIAN RAILWAY. (See page 674.)



SKETCHES IN CANADA.—SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER THE OTTAWA. (See page 674.)



VIEW OF THE CITY AND RIVER OF OTTAWA. (See page 674.)

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CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK.

ARRIVEDARIE.

d. W. L. B.

D.	S.	M.	A. M.	P. M.
8	E	Oxford Term ends	0 51
9	S	PALM SUNDAY	1 11 1 29
10	w	Louis Napoleon special constable, 1818	1 47 2 2
11	r	George Canning born, 1770	2 18 2 31
12	w	Gold discovered in Australia, 1850	2 50 3 5
13	r	Maundy Thursday	3 21 3 37
14	w	Good Friday. Princess Beatrice born, 1857	3 51	4 9

SECOND CONGREGATION.—Full Moon, 11th, 4*p*. 28*m*. a.m.

Sunday Lessons

MORNING.

AFTERNOON.

Exod. 9; Matt. 26. Exod. 10; Heb. 5 to v. 11.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

April 9.—Palm Sunday.—The palm-tree has been chosen to commemorate Christ's entrance into Jerusalem, as the emblem of victory. The Roman Catholic pilgrims were called "palmers," from the staves made from the branches with which they supported themselves.

14th.—Good Friday.—Celebrated as a holy day in commemoration of the Crucifixion of Our Saviour. In some countries a stock of cakes is preserved on this day, as a cure for the faithful throughout the year.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* Correspondents finding their questions unanswered will understand that we are unable to do so, either from their peculiarity, or that our correspondents with little trouble could readily obtain the information themselves.

To OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY News and REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER sent post-free to any part of the United Kingdom for three penny postage stamps. Persons wishing to subscribe for a quarter, so as to receive the two newspapers through the post, may remit a subscription of 3*s*. 3*d*. to Mr. JOHN DICKS at the Office, 313, Strand.

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T. R.—The Queen's Treasure, now called the Prince of Wales, Tottenham-court-road, was originally Faugier's concert room; it was then enlarged for the concerts of ancient music by Novissiati, who built a special box there for George III and Queen Charlotte, it subsequently became the Tottenham, the Regency, the Royal, the West London, and the Queen's. Under its new name the Prince of Wales has taken a box there.

OLD STAGER.—Eric, Henry Marston, George Bennett, Mrs. Stirling, and Mrs. W. West performed together in "Bolis," at Drury Lane, in 1858. Mr. W. Mr. Walpole, Secretary-at-War, was sent to the Tower for bribery in 1712.

A MACABRIC.—The Great Eastern is 660 feet in length, and 83 feet in breadth.

F. W.—The Court of Chancery is the proper court to apply to in all cases against executors.

ALBERT S.—In the Arctic regions persons can converse together at a distance of from one to two miles with perfect distinctness.

B. H.—The original Bank Charter was signed in 1705, and extended to 1722, and was five years after extended to 1742. It was then renewed to 1764, and was in this manner extended from time to time, in five years grants, until 1800, when it was extended thirty-three years, the final extent of the original charter.

QUAKER.—Fagan died in 1840.

B. F.—No. The Bickling Hall was projected by Robert Walpole in 1718. MORTON B.—A mail will be despatched to Mexico on the 14th inst.

SUBSCRIBER.—The term "hur-ay-barley" is said to be the origin to two rival families, named Hurleaga and Barligh, whose contentions filled the country round with violence.

R. S.—The dimensions of the Great Exhibition of 1851, at Hyde-park, were 1851 feet in length, 456 feet in breadth in the widest part, and the extent of ground covered was a little more than eighteen acres. It occupied only eighteen weeks in building.

W. T. S.—The wife, having deserted her husband, has no legal claim to take charge of the children, nor of the furniture, even though it were hers prior to marriage.

CHOCQUES.—The Act closing public-houses until after one o'clock on Sundays was passed in August, 1839.

THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1865.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

ANOTHER worker, who had done in his time a good day's work, has passed to his rest. On Sunday morning, at half-past eleven, Mr. Cobden died. Thousands of his countrymen, to whom the simple announcement will come with much abruptness, will mourn the loss of a man who gave himself up with unmixed motives and with unwearied patience to the good of his country. It is well known that for many years past Mr. Cobden suffered from enfeebled health, and once or twice he was obliged to seek in warmer climates a refuge from the inhospitable winter of England. The speech which he made at Hochdale towards the close of last year utterly prostrated him, and throughout this long protracted winter he shut himself up at Midhurst. The debate on the defences of Canada drew him to London. Well acquainted with the Canadian provinces and the Federal States, he wished to use his local knowledge and his powerful reasoning against a scheme which seemed on every side delusive. But he had quitted his retirement prematurely. A sharper attack of his malady supervened; in the middle of last week his condition excited the gravest apprehensions of his friends, and on Sunday he died. It must strike many with surprise that Mr. Cobden should have been but a few months more than sixty years old. Acquainted as we are to septuagenarian statesmen, we can scarcely believe that one who has been prominent in political life so long, and whose greatest triumph was achieved nearly twenty years ago, should only have been born in 1804. Mr. Cobden began life young. The son of a Sussex yeoman, he had no advantages of connexion or descent to promote his progress, yet at thirty he had appeared before the world as a thinker and writer, and at thirty-seven he was returned to the House of Commons as the foremost man of the newly-organized Anti-Corn Law League. His earliest publications were arguments on behalf of that unfeared intercourse between nations, the accomplishment of which was the great work of his life. The formation of the League introduced him to larger audiences, and made his name known throughout the kingdom. With indefatigable perseverance he travelled from town to town, addressing large meetings not unfrequently every night of the week, and enforcing the objects of the association with great acuteness, unrivalled facility of illustration, and with close and coherent reasoning. In late years he would often look back with regret to those laborious days when, with unwavering confidence in the soundness of his argument and the justice of his cause, he fought a battle against odds which seemed to make it hopeless.

SATURDAY was a great day for South London. Its industrial exhibition had been closed a week before under the auspices of Lord Shaftesbury, and it was known that no less a personage than the Prime Minister himself would come down to the Lambeth Baths to distribute the prizes to the successful competitors with his own hands. By some means or other the Speaker's chair of the old House of Commons has found its way to the other side of the Thames, and is, justly enough, regarded by the population with much pride, as a relic only to be brought out upon very special occasions, such as the one in question. Nothing could be more fitting than that Lord Palmerston should be seated in the chair which in times past he had so often addressed. He is one of a small and rapidly diminishing number of the members who sit in the new House of Commons who had seats also in the old one, and the thought might not unnaturally suggest itself to him what a very different state of society and politics we have now from that which this venerable relic witnessed. There were no industrial Exhibitions in those days. The old chair had not long seen the passing of the Reform Bill before the Houses of Parliament of which it is a venerable relic, were destroyed by fire. The Corn-laws were still to be in force for more than a decade of years, and the great educational movement had not yet received that first instalment of £30,000 from the public funds, which has since been increased to £80,000. Though the battle of Reform had been won, it could not be said that the people of England were satisfied, or that there was even an approach to that contentment which we witness now. Above all, the idea still lingered in the minds of many that it was a work of danger to endeavour to elevate the intellectual condition of the working classes. But no one entertains such an opinion now. From the highest to the lowest there is a universal consent that the old-world notion was false, and that in the same proportion as which the masses have received the advantages of education they have become better workers and better citizens. Lord Palmerston fully recognised this truth in his address on Saturday, and no doubt he spoke with the utmost sincerity when he expressed the deep gratification he felt in being allowed to take part in what he described as one of the most interesting ceremonies he had ever witnessed. "The exercise of the intellectual faculties," he observed, "to which the exhibitors here show that they have devoted themselves, must make them happier men; must contribute to raise them, not only in their own estimation, but in the estimation of all who know them, and must lead to the noblesse of all exercises, of all pleasures—the cultivation, improvement, and development of the human intellect." We can, therefore, cordially endorse the words of encouragement with which Lord Palmerston concluded his address to the exhibitors—"Go on, and prosper; and depend upon it that the blessings which you will confer upon yourselves and your families will be proportionate to the industry you display, and to the cultivation which you give to those faculties with which Providence has endowed you." But is there not something more to be said upon this subject? We are strongly impressed with the idea that it is not sufficient to address such language to men who have deserved

so well of society, without accompanying it by the admission that the time is not far distant when they must be admitted to a larger share of political rights than they possess. It is certain that this parliament will die without any attempt of the kind, but it is equally certain that the next will have to deal with the question of parliamentary reform in a large and liberal spirit. It is not to be supposed that the people of this country will longer tolerate their exclusion from political rights.

THE PRACTICAL GARDENER.

GARDENING OPERATIONS FOR THE WEEK.

FLOWER GARDEN.—At length out-door gardening weather appears to have set in in earnest, although the nights still continue cold. Lost time must now be made up as soon as possible, and flower-gardens dressed and made neat. Walks should be regravelled, and where there are bare places on lawns fresh grass seeds should be sown thickly. Sweet peas, mignonette, convolvulus, and other hardy annuals should be sown at once; and biennials and perennials transplanted into beds and borders to flower this season. Plant box edging where required, and sow and plant climbers for hedges and fences; also plant evergreens, first cutting away decayed wood, and prune. Finish planting carnations, and now pansies and polyanthus. Chrysanthemums in pots, not required for propagation, may be planted out in borders. Keep the soil well round the roots of ranunculus. Finish pruning shrubberies and plantations.

KITCHEN GARDEN.—Make good sowings of Brussels sprouts, Savoy, cabbage, lettuce, radishes, onions, and leeks. Pick out cauliflower, &c., &c., as soon as ready. Sow nasturtiums for picking. Plant potatoes for main crop. Sow sweet marjoram and other annual herbs. Finish planting horseradish and Jerusalem artichokes. Sow kidney beans and scarlet runner beans in sheltered situations. Prepare beds for mushrooms. Keep the shoots of cucumbers well regulated. Sow cardoons in trenches; also beet for general crop. Sprinkle soot on the ground, and hoe up advancing crops.

FRUIT GARDEN.—Grafting may still be carried on. Keep the knife well at work in pruning, cutting away all decayed wood, and regulating advancing shoots.

THE MAIN DRAINAGE OF THE METROPOLIS.

On Tuesday his royal highness the Prince of Wales celebrated what may be fairly termed the completion of the Main Drainage of the Metropolis by an inspection of the works which have been long in hand and in operation and by starting the great engines at Crossness Point, which henceforth will easily pump the 24,000,000 gallons of sewage and rainwater on the south side of the river into the Thames at Erith. Seldom in any country has a more important, more extensive, more costly, or more difficult work than this been executed, and certainly never in any of the cities of England. London, even with all its faults of a poisoned Thames, was still in the abstract and, as far as the mere construction of sewers went, always the best drained city in the world. After Tuesday it will hold a position in this respect which will be above comparison with any other European capital. For such an all-important work it is mere justice to say that we are almost entirely indebted to the Board of Works, who have gone about their duties in an earnest practical way, which sets a high example alike to both the Government and the City Corporation. With the assistance of their engineer, Mr. Bazalgette, they have triumphed over natural and artificial obstacles in the way of the perfect drainage of this great province of houses, and whether it has been in making new streets or in widening narrow ones, whether in embanking the Thames, or giving new designs for lamp-posts, nothing in the way of metropolitan improvements has as yet proved either above their capacity or beneath their attention. The work which was inaugurated on Tuesday has been more important and difficult in its execution, and will be infinitely more beneficial in its results, even than the embankment of the Thames itself. If ever the history of our main drainage works is written we venture to think that the story of its engineering difficulties will vie with all that may be found in the "Lives of the Engineers," while it is certain that even in that history of mechanical and engineering marvels there will be no record found of works so dangerously difficult effected at so small a cost. What they have been may be best understood by a few figures. There are now about 1,300 miles of sewers in London, and eighty-two miles of main intercepting sewers. Three hundred and eighteen millions of bricks and 850,000 cubic yards of concrete have been consumed, and three and half million cubic yards of earth have been excavated in the execution of these main drainage works. The total pumping power employed is 2,380 nominal horse-power; and if at full work night and day 44,000 tons of coal per annum would be consumed. The sewage on the north side of the Thames at present amounts to 10,000,000 cubic feet a day, and on the south side to 4,000,000 cubic feet per day; but provision is made for an anticipated increase up to 11½ millions on the north side, and 1½ millions on the south side, in addition to 28½ million cubic feet of rainfall per diem on the north side, and 17½ million cubic feet per diem on the south side, or a total of 63 million cubic feet per diem, which is equal to a lake of 48 acres, 3 feet deep, or fifteen times as large as the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

The cost of these stupendous works has only amounted to little more than £4,000,000. The sum for defraying this expense is raised by loan, and paid off by a 3*d*. rate, levied on the metropolis, which produces £150,262 per annum, the rateable value being £14,421,011, and the principal and interest of the loan will be paid off in forty years.

Such is a brief outline of the chief features of the Main Drainage works which the Prince of Wales on Tuesday opened. From first to last, they have been solely designed by Mr. Bazalgette, and executed under the immediate superintendence of the assistant engineers, Messrs. Lovick, Grant, and Cooper. The principal contractors have been Messrs. Brassey, Oglevie, and Barron, Messrs. James Watt and Co., Messrs. Slaughter, and Messrs. Rothwell and Co.

"WRITING FOR RETURN OF POST."—This is a request too often made without the application being at hand to carry out its consumption; and yet, if we would calm much anxiety, a few words for return of post should never, if possible, be neglected. With such a cheap and portable little writing case as is issued by Messrs. Parke and Goffe, of Oxford-street, for two shillings, the above request can always be accomplished in a few minutes; for it contains all the requisites for an impromptu letter, pens, paper, envelope, ink, &c., all in a small compass. The price of twenty guineas and silver medal was awarded for this useful little case by the Society of Arts; and if another fact is required of its wide-spread utility, upwards of 300,000 of these cases have already been sold.

THE PHILOSOPHER OF A GOOD MAN.—A man has an index to the character and conduct of the wearer, a proof of taste and sense—in fact, a guide that shows that a man has a proper respect for the prevailing fashion of progress and improvement in the customs of civilized society. WALKER'S noted hair-guarde hats are unequalled in quality and style; the shapes being in every variety, are suitable to all comers. To improve the memory it would be well to repeat frequently that WALKER'S hat Manufactory is No. 49, Crawford-street (corner of Seymour-place), Marylebone.—[Advertisement.]

THE RECENT IMPENDING NAVAL ENGAGEMENT OFF THE COAST OF SPAIN.

By a telegraphic published at the close of last week we learnt that the two Federal war steamers Niagara and Sacramento, which were codding the movements of the Confederate ram Stonewall, arrived at Lisbon just after the Stonewall had quitted that port, and were warned by the Portuguese authorities against sailing within twenty-four hours. The captain, however, imitating the insolent example of many of their Yankee brethren, imagined they might set the Portuguese Government at defiance, and prepared to leave within the prohibited time. They were soon discovered, and brought to their senses by the guns of the Belém fort. The Niagara was struck on the poop, and a seaman killed, and then the Yankees knocked under and anchored their vessels.

On page 681 we give an engraving of the Niagara. She is commanded by Commodore Craven, and carries 12 200-pounder Parrot guns. She steams about twelve miles, but is very long, and cannot turn round in less than half a mile, whereas the ram can turn round in her own length.

The Sacramento carries 11 200-pounder Parrot guns, and has a crew of about 500 men; the Niagara has a crew of 450 men. It was the general opinion of people at Corunna that if the Stonewall could but lodge one of her 300-pound shells in either of the Federals it would sink them in five minutes.

There were two Spanish frigates waiting to accompany the ram out to sea, in order that no fighting might take place in Spanish waters.

The admiral of the station sympathises with the South, and when taking leave of the captain of the Stonewall said he wished him success from his heart.

The excitement of the people was immense. The Federals had made themselves very obnoxious there lately, several of them being in prison in Corunna at the present moment. One of the officers of the Niagara had to make a public apology for having insulted a Spanish officer at a ball in the Carnaval, and three officers were turned out of a ball-room. On the contrary, the officers and crew of the Stonewall had gained the goodwill of the Spaniards by their quiet, gentlemanly conduct during the whole of their stay.

A letter from Ferrol (Spain), dated March 26th, says:

"The enthusiasm and admiration of the people here is not to be described in words; nothing else is talked of; one hears the same subject in the streets, clubs, or private houses. The officers here have arranged to give a splendid banquet to the officers and crew of the Stonewall, should she return; they will be carried through the streets in triumph. At Corunna, also, the excitement is very great; all, even to the ladies, are lost in their praise of the handful of men on board the Confederates. It is intended there also to give dinners and balls to her crew, should she put in. None of the Federals dared venture on shore after their gunboat disgrace; they would most certainly have been mobbed. Even as it was, boats were rowing near the Niagara and Sacramento, hooting at their officers, and calling them cowards and cowards (pigs). There were, I believe, some 8,000 persons assembled near Corunna to witness the fight, had it taken place, and among them the Governor-General, who publicly said that should any of the Federals come on shore and enter any of the cafes or clubs, all Spaniards should get up and leave the room instantly. The American vice-consul in Corunna, Mr. Funet, has been hooted and whistled at in the public streets. There is also a Mr. Palmer, an American by birth, but at present chief engineer of the Spanish frigate Tetuan, who has got himself into bad repute by his activity in acting as spy for the Federals since they came here. He is hissed at and mobbed by the women and children of the town, and called the Federal spy, and is a disgrace to the Spanish navy, having used his position and uniform as a cloak to his real character, he having gone on board the ram when she first came, and taken observations for the use of the Federals, and since then been continually watching and telegraphing the movements of the Stonewall.

"All day yesterday the Federal ships had steam up in Corunna Harbour as usual, and men at the mastsheads looking out. I think they wished to leave, but were afraid the ram might make her appearance from behind some point or creek and surprise them. I believe they sailed last night, taking advantage of the darkness to make their escape, and also to avoid the meeting of the people. The contempt of all here is much increased at the fact of the brig and bombast the Yankees indulged in before the Stonewall came out, they saying that she would hardly make a good breakfast for them. They also said that after the fight they intended giving a ball, &c., to the leading people of Corunna.

"It is impossible to praise too highly the daring and courage of the Stonewall and her handful of men in destroying two ships of twenty-three guns and 800 men to come out and fight them, mounting but three guns and eighty men. We only hope that they may return here to receive the praise and admiration they so well merit; a braver crew never trod a deck."

The American minister has demanded satisfaction for the firing upon the Niagara and Sacramento by the Portuguese forts. He also requests the dismissal of the governor of Fort Belém, and a salute of twenty-one guns to the American flag.

THE LAST DAY OF THE SALE.

The engraving which we give on page 680 is from a painting by Mr. G. B. O'Neill, and first exhibited at the Royal Academy. In this picture the artist has caught with great felicity the varied aspects, both grave and gay, of a sale by auction, than which there are few more bustling and few sadder sights. The household gods are being shattered on the hearth, the home broken up, the furniture scattered far and wide—to be separated, perchance, for evermore, by mount, and stream, and sea. And over all presides the auctioneer, impulsive, immovable, impartial as Brahmaanthus, judging alike the good and the bad articles, knocking them down with a hammer as unsparring as Time his scythe, and Death his sickle.

Whenever the carpets are hung out of the windows, and the bills are up, there is something to be mourned. Widows are weeping, and orphans are crying, because they are desolate; and spinsters are vainly repenting, or old men are sighing after their departed prosperity. Still there are brighter aspects to every auction. You will always find at a sale a young couple, who, like all young couples, are always wanting something to complete their felicity in the way of upholstery. There is also another young couple, not married yet, but who hope to be soon, and who come, not to bid, but to indulge in Aladdin-like dreams of the things they are sure to want when they are married; and there is that wonderful old lady, who seems to have nothing to do but to go about to sales, who always bids fiercely, and yet never seems to have anything knocked down to her. Mr. O'Neill's speciality is the delineation of social character. The busy crowd of bidders and buyers (very difficult ones to manage, by the way) are brought excellently into composition; and the expression of the two chaffering sly-for-looking old professional dealers, who are examining the coins, is full of quaint humour. There is a touch of poetry too in the female—an old and devoted servant of the family probably—who is silently weeping in a corner, and the man in the back-ground, who is bringing the bedding down-stairs. Alas, that we should see so many of these pictures in reality.

EXCELSIOR! FAMILY SEWING AND MENDING MACHINE. For every home, are the simplest, cheapest, and best; doing every variety of domestic and fancy work in a superior manner. Lists free. Wight and Mann, 182, Holborn Bars, London. Manufactury, Ipswich. Advertisements.

No. 1000. **WILLOW AND GIBBS SEWING MACHINE.**—Simple, compact, efficient, durable, and noiseless. Warrented to fulfil all the requirements of a perfect family Machine. Price £5.50. Specimen free on application at 182, Regent-street.—Advertisement.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

The Public Schools Bill, the second reading of which was moved by the Earl of Clarendon, met with a strong opposition, and was ultimately read a second time, the committee being appointed for the 2nd of May.

In the House of Commons Mr. T. D. Acadia took his seat for North Devon, in the room of the late Mr. J. W. Butler. On the approach of the hour for the commencement of public business on Monday the benches on each side of the house became excessively crowded. Members addressed each other in whispers. The stillness at times was almost deathlike. Gentlemen seated below the gangway, in the neighbourhood of the seat usually occupied by the late Mr. Cobden, and many of whom, including Mr. Bright, were not only his political followers but attached friends, exhibited all the signs of intense mental affliction and internal emotion. It was not there alone, however, that the loss which parliament and the country have sustained by Mr. Cobden's death had produced its effect; for the whole aspect of the house was subdued and solemn, and could not have been more deep or general in the presence of a great and irretrievable national calamity.

When the order of the day for going into committee of supply was called, Lord Palmerston said it was impossible for the house to hear the motion put without calling to mind the great loss which the country had sustained by the event which had taken place the previous morning.

Mr. Cobden, whose loss they all deplored, had stood in a prominent position both as a member of the house and as an English citizen.

acted by a phalanx of worthy associates, it was reserved to Mr. Cobden, by his untiring industry, his indomitable personal activity, the indomitable energy of his mind, and the persuasive and Democratic eloquence with which he treated all subjects, to carry into practical application those abstract principles of commercial freedom by which he was deeply impressed, and which at last gained the acceptance of all reasonable men. But great as were his talents and his industry, and eminent as was his success, they were all equalled by the disinterestedness of his mind. He was a man of great ambition; but his ambition was to be useful to his country, and that ambition was amply gratified. When the present Government was formed he was offered a seat in the Cabinet, which he declined, on the ground that he differed from them (Lord Palmerston) on many important principles of political action.

The two great achievements of Mr. Cobden were, first, the abrogation of those laws which regulate the importation of corn, and the completion of those commercial arrangements which he negotiated with France. When the latter work was accomplished Mr. Cobden was offered the honours of a baronetcy and a seat at the Privy Council; but the same disinterested spirit which entered into all his conduct, in private and in public, led him to decline these distinctions also.

The country had sustained a loss which every man in it would feel. They had lost a man who was emblematical of the constitution under which we lived, because he had risen to great eminence in that house, and acquired an ascendancy in the public mind, not by virtue of any family connections, but solely in consequence of the power and vigour of his intellect, being applied to purposes that were advantageous to the country.

His name would be inscribed on the most interesting page of our history; and there was not a man in the house who did not feel that it had lost one of its brightest ornaments, and the country one of its greatest and most useful servants. Mr. Disraeli said he could not reconcile it to himself to be silent on an occasion when the house had to deplore the loss of one so eminent, in the very ripeness of his manhood and the full vigour of his intellect.

Although it was the fortune of Mr. Cobden to enter public life at a time when passions ran high, still, when the strife was over, there was soon observed in him a moderation and a tempered

thought which indicated a large intellectual grasp and the possession of statesmanlike qualities. Indeed there was in his character a peculiar vein of reverence for tradition, which often, unconsciously to himself, subdued and softened the acerbity of the cruder conclusions at which he might have arrived. As a debater he had few equals; as a logician he was clear and complete, adroit, and acute, perhaps even austere.

At the same time he was gifted with such a degree of imagination that he never lost sight of the sympathies of those whom he addressed, and so, generally avoiding to drive his argument to extremity, he became as a speaker both practical and persuasive.

When the verdict of posterity came to be recorded on the life and conduct of Mr. Cobden it would be said of him that he was, without doubt, the greatest political character that the pure middle class of this country had yet produced—that he was an ornament to the House of Commons and an honour to England. Mr. Bright, who was overwhelmed with grief, said the expressions of sympathy which he had just listened to were most gratifying to his heart. He dared not attempt to utter the feelings by which he was oppressed, but would leave to some calmer moment, when he might have an opportunity of speaking to some portions of his countrymen, the lesson which he thought might be learned from the life and character of his friend. He could only say that, after many years of most intimate and brotherly friendship with Mr. Cobden, he little knew how much he had loved him until he had lost him.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—The regulations under which the Queen's Prize will be shot for this year have just been issued by the National Rifle Association. Two representatives from every enrolled company of volunteers will be allowed to compete on the payment of an entrance fee of £1 each man from non-subscribing corps. New long Enfields will be issued from the War-office for the competition, but the competitors will not be restricted to the use of these rifles, and may use any private maker's rifles, provided that they are stamped and certified as being of the Government pattern. The competition will take place with 1863 ammunition, and in order that the representatives of regiments may have practice prior to the time of meeting, the Government magazines will supply a quantity not exceeding 200 rounds each competitor, at the cost price of 4s. 4d. a hundred. The regulations of the St. George's Vase competition are almost entirely different from those under which the vase has been shot for. There are now to be two stages, the first 500 yards with five shots, deciding who is to be the winner of the vase, which will be held by the winner's commanding officer for a year, the winner himself receiving a gold and enamelled jewel of St. George and a pair of dragon sovereigns. The second stage will be five shots at 600 yards by the highest sixty in the first stage, for a dragon cup worth 100 guineas. These prizes are got up by the St. George's Rifle Volunteer Corps, and the entrance fee from the competitors will be handed over to the National Rifle Association. One representative from each company of a consolidated battalion and one representative from each corps of an administrative battalion will be allowed to compete on payment of 10s. on bearing a certificate showing him to be an efficient volunteer and selected by his regiment.

SCIENTIFIC AMUSEMENTS AND PARISANTS.—We recommend our readers who require any Electrical, Galvanic, Chemical and other apparatus to apply to W. Faulkner, operative chemist, 40, Kendal-street, Long Acre, W.C. on same side as the Savile. The newly invented Magnetic-Electric Cell, which requires neither acid nor battery, and is both useful for amusements, and particularly recommended in all cases of disease where Galvanism is useful, is sold at 1s. to 5s. It is very portable and is fitted in a neat mahogany case. Other Cells with Battery and handles, complete from 17s. 6d. to 21s. The Sun Light or Magnesia Wire, manufactured by W. Faulkner, possesses unusual brilliancy. It is sold at 2d. and 4d. per foot, sent free by post on receipt of a stamped envelope. A large assortment of second-hand Camera Lenses, Magic Luminaires and Electrical Apparatus and B series of every description. The greatest novelty of the day is the Cenrifugal Sewing Engine made of glass. It is prettily fitted up as an ornament; it is filled with perfume or water, and heat being applied, it works with great rapidity, and diffuses its perfume in any place, price 2s. 6d. or packed 3s. 6d.—[Advertisement.]

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE WORKING MEN OF LAMBETH.

The ceremony of distributing the prizes awarded at the Working Men's Exhibition of South London took place on Saturday evening. Lord Palmerston himself presented the prizes to the successful exhibitors.

Among those who received prizes were two little boys seven or eight years of age, and two little girls not much older. Two blind men also received a prize for wool work, and a brewer's drayman received one for an ingenious bird-cage composed of 1,109 pieces. Two or three exhibitors in volunteer uniforms also received prizes. Three or four of the exhibitors who were presented with certificates of honourable mention, when according to their own opinion they ought to have received prizes, were guilty of the very bad taste of tearing up their certificates immediately after receiving them at his lordship's hands, and throwing the pieces among the people below the platform, for which they were soundly hissed, and one who was a little more demonstrative than the others was turned out of the hall by the indignant audience.

The ceremony of distributing the prizes having been completed, a handsome ornamental chimney-piece clock was presented to Mr. Murphy, the hon. secretary, and Mr. Wyars read an address in which the whole body of the exhibitors thanked Mr. Murphy for the patience and assiduity with which he had promoted the exhibition.

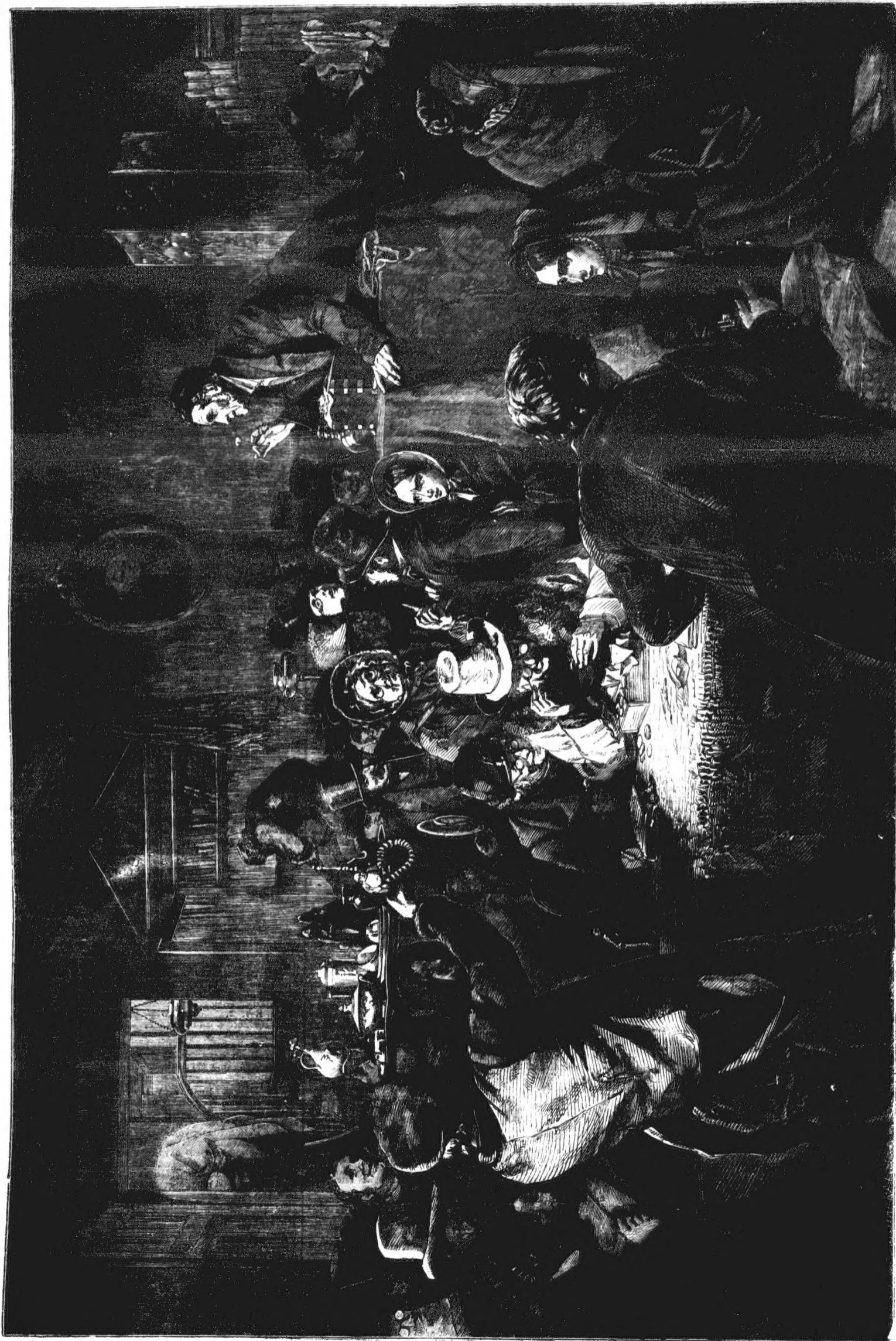
Mr. MURPHY having thanked the exhibitors in a few brief and appropriate remarks,

Lord PALMERSTON rose, and was received with loud and continued cheers. He said: Ladies and gentlemen, I beg in the first place to express the deep gratification it has afforded me to be allowed to take part in what I may truly say has been one of the most interesting ceremonies that I have ever witnessed in my life. What can be more interesting to any man who takes an interest in the well-being, the happiness, and the development of talent in his fellow-countrymen than to have seen pass before him that goodly train of men, women, and children who have received the prizes which have been awarded for the merits which they have displayed in the exhibition that has just closed? If there be some whose unreasonable expectation of obtaining rewards has been disappointed, they should recollect that the judges appointed by the body of exhibitors had one of the most difficult tasks to perform; difficult exactly in proportion to the amount of talent displayed by the exhibitors, because where there are 600 candidates for distinction and 300 prizes to be awarded, great indeed must have been the difficulty of those who had to pick out the 300 best. It is impossible that the most accurate judgment and the most sedulous care in the selection of half the names of so large a body, where all have displayed great merit, would satisfy every man that his merits have been duly appreciated and the reward assigned to him which he may think ought to have been his need. (Cheers.) It is indeed remarkable to have seen such intellectual distinction exhibited by persons of all ages, of both sexes, even by those who, by their military uniform, show that their leisure hours are occupied in the service of their country (cheers), and not only that, but also by those who might from their afflictions be supposed to be disqualified from competing in such an exhibition as this (cheers), even those sad afflictions, however, have not prevented the accomplishment of work which one would have thought it would have been impossible for them to perform. I have seen many recipients of medals pass before me whom you could not see on account of the lowness of their stature, children of almost precocious talents, who might fairly expect in mature age will arrive at great distinction. This exhibition and the work performed, showing in every character and quality the operations of man, are extremely significant of the happy constitution under which we have the good fortune to live. (Cheers.) That constitution opens to every man who has talent, industry, perseverance, and good conduct, any honours and distinctions to which the style of his mind and his attainments may qualify him to aspire. (Hear, hear.) I would ask if many of you have not on a fine bright day in the beginning of summer gone to that great seat of amusement, Epsom Race Course, and have you not seen horses run for that celebrated race called the Derby? (Cheers and laughter.) Perhaps three or four hundred horses had entered for that race, but only one won the prize, and all the rest that had entered failed of course to obtain the object of ambition. But those luckless horses that don't win the Derby win other races. (Great cheering.) If they are good for anything they will certainly win something—(cheers)—and repay the training, the industry, the pains, and the expense of those who had fitted them for the competition in which they had to take part. So I say to you, "You are competitors for prizes. You may not all become full generals or admirals, you may not become lords chancellors or archbishops—(a laugh)—you may not become members of the Cabinet—(renewed laughter and cheers)—but, depend upon it, you will, by a course of industry, raise yourselves in the social system of your country, acquire honour and respect for yourselves and for your families. (Cheers.) You will have, too, the constant satisfaction of feeling that you have materially contributed to the dignity of your country, to its welfare, its prosperity, and its greatness—and that you have been worthy of the nation to which you belong." (Loud cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I beg again to express the extreme pleasure which I have received from that which I have witnessed to-day, and I only trust that hereafter these exhibitions may be even more successful than the present one. I am told that this exhibition has exceeded that of last year. Go on and prosper, and depend upon it that the blessings which you will confer upon yourselves and your families will be proportioned to the industry you display, and to the cultivation which you give to those faculties with which Providence has endowed you. (The noble viscount resumed his seat amid loud and protracted cheering.)

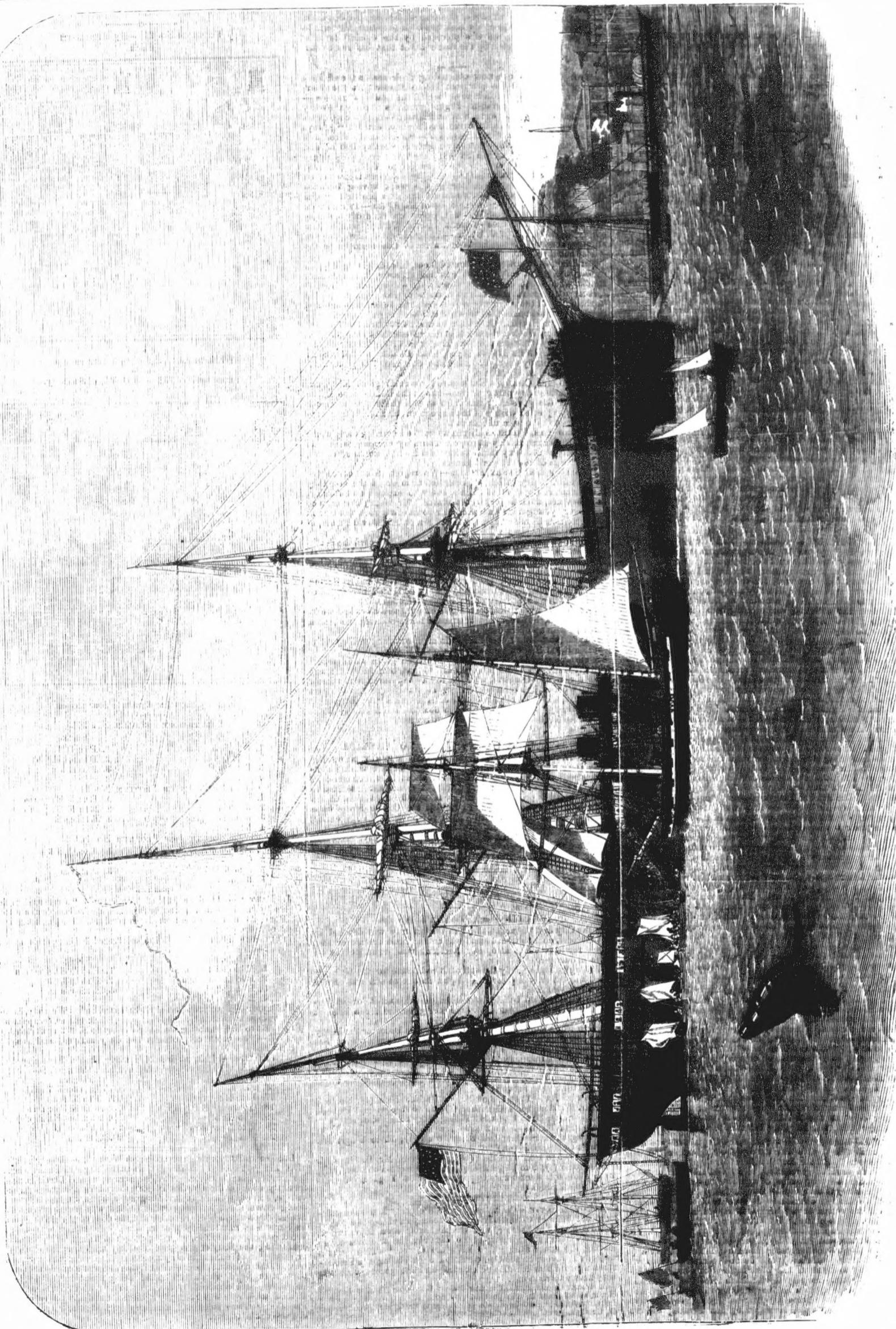
The Rev. Mr. BOWSTEAD proposed, and the Rev. NEWMAN HALL seconded a cordial vote of thanks to Lord Palmerston for attending on the occasion.

Mr. JOHN LOCKE, M.P., supported the motion, which was carried with unanimous applause, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

THE EASTER MONDAY VOLUNTEER REVIEW.—On Saturday Colonel Erskine, Inspector General of Volunteers, the authorities of the War-office, and those of the Brighton Railway Company and Corporation, finally completed their arrangements for the forthcoming Easter Monday volunteer review on Brighton Down. It has been determined that the chief command of the review, and as inspecting officer, shall devolve upon Major-General Sir Robert Walpole, K.O.B., commandant at Chatham, who will be assisted by an efficient staff, including the new Volunteer Inspector-General. The brigadiers on the occasion are to be distinguished by a crimson sash, and will be chosen from the following commanding officers, viz.:—The Duke of Wellington, Viscount Bessborough, Lord Radstock, Lord Elton, Lieutenant-Colonel F. M. Bigge, Viscount Bury, Earl Grosvenor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Macdonald, Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Barttelot, Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Thorne, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Dunsmore, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Walker. With regard to the railway arrangements, they will be entirely under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hawkins, the traffic manager of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, assisted by other members of the railway officers' corps, who have been invited to join him, should any necessity arise. From the applications and sanctions which have been given to corps to attend the review by the Secretary of State for War there is reason to believe that the whole force of volunteers upon the ground on Easter Monday will reach some 18,000 or 20,000.



THE LAST DAY OF THE SALE. (From a Painting, by G. E. C.—See page 682.)



THE FEDERAL SHIP "NIAGARA," RECENTLY PRIZED UPON BY THE PORTUGUESE. (See page 679.)

Theatricals, Music, etc.

HER MAJESTY'S.—The Italian opera season opens here on the 22nd inst. The rage for opera is probably stronger in the present day than at any former period, and Mr. Mapleson has lost no opportunity of providing his subscribers with the very best artists, and it is mainly due to his enterprise that a worthy successor to Titien is the one bright particular star of Her Majesty's Theatre, and, at present, by universal consent, the finest lyric actress of the day. Her incomparable talents will again delight the London public during the forthcoming season. Three of Mr. Mapleson's promises possess an interest very far in advance of operas announced generally. They are Mozart's "Il Flauto Magico," Cherubini's "Medea," and Richard Wagner's opera of the "future," "Tannhauser." Beethoven's "Fidelio," with Mdile. Titien's incomparable personation of Leonora, made its mark last season, and will be again repeated, and on its re-production will be mounted with new scenery by Mr. Tebbin. Mdile. Irma de Murks, the young prima donna who has been eulogized by some of the best and most severe of Continental critics and audiences, is to make her appearance, also Miss Laura Harris (of the New York Academy of Music). Madame Harriss Wippner, with Mdile. Leibhart, Grossi, Bettelheim, and Madame Trebelli, are re-engaged. The name of the latter is a tower of strength, especially when "Faust" is in the case, for Madame Trebelli is certainly the Siebel of the day. Signors Giuglini, Gordoni, and Herr Gunz will re-appear, and two new tenors will be introduced—M. Julian, and Signor Morini, of the Barcelos opera. Mr. Santley, our great native baritone, will resume many of his famous characters. Two new baritones are also announced—Signors Foli and Zocchi (from the Italian Opera at Paris and the Apollo Theatre at Rome). Two basses, not hitherto heard here, are included in Mr. Mapleson's list. They are M. Wallraff (from the Imperial Opera at Prague) and Signor Rokitski (of the Vienna Opera). Signors Marcello Juncos and Bassi are retained in the company, and Signor Scarsella will sing at this theatre for the first time. Mr. Mapleson has in previous seasons paid due regard to precedent, and supplied his patrons with *ballets divertissements*, and for the present operatic term has engaged Mdile. Adeline Theodore and Mdile. Urbaine (the latter a Parisian *dameuse* of high position). The military band is that of the Grenadier Guards, under the direction of Mr. D. Godfrey. The subscription is (at the option of subscribers) to consist of either thirty or forty nights. The chorus has been considerably strengthened. The ability as a *chef d'orchestra* shown by Signor Ardit is unquestionable, and it is almost needless to say he will again appear at the head of affairs in this department. The prospective announcements are unusually promising, and the season will, we trust, realize the energetic director's most hopeful expectations. Rumours of Signor Giuglini's recovery have within the last few days grown into a certainty, and there is now little fear that he will be absent from his post.

COVENT GARDEN.—"Guillaume Tell" was produced on Saturday evening, by the Royal Italian Opera Company. The overture and instrumental portions of the opera were given by Mr. Costa's orchestra with extraordinary vigour, and an encore of the overture was evidently expected, for the vociferous applause at its conclusion was immediately quieted by a repetition of the brilliant *finale*. Mdile. Sonieri made her *début* as Matilde, and this may be considered the event of the evening, for, excepting Signor Attri, who played Waller for the first time, the cast offered no peculiar novelty. Mdile. Sonieri was, perhaps, slightly nervous at first appearing before a London audience; but very quickly, however, it became apparent that an excessive use of the *tremolo* was the great principle of the young lady's singing. The *debutante's* voice is of a better and more resonant quality in the upper than in the middle or lower range. Her execution of florid passages is sufficiently precise, and though the character of Matilde does not afford much scope for acting, her manner is easy and free from restraint. Signor Wachtel's forcible style and great physical power render him eminently fitted to represent the character of Arnoldo. As a matter of course he threw the high notes out with the same ringing tone and astonishing effect as ever, but it is a great question whether a frequent use of these high notes does not weaken the remaining portions of the voice and impair the quality of the whole. In this intensely dramatic situation preceding the gathering of patriots from the three Cantons, when Arnoldo has to hear of his father's murder, Signor Wachtel sang and acted with great power. The grief and horror expressed in the passage commencing "Ah che sento?" and the fiery utterance of revenge succeeding it, raised something like enthusiasm in the audience. The picturesque *finale* to the second act, when the mountaineers crowd the stage, and repeat the oath, "Guriam, giuriamo, Felnostro onor," administered by Guglielmo Tell (Signor Grasiani), was finely given by all concerned. The latter artist's impersonation was in the highest degree imposing, both vocally and dramatically. The value of a thorough artist such as Signor Attri was effectively demonstrated in Waller, and the same may quite as truthfully be said of Signor Polomini in Melchior. Madame Rudensdorff was the representative of Jenny. The always useful and artistic Signor Tagliafico resumed his part of Gessler, and Signor Neri-Baraldi sang the opening barcarole, in the first scene, very expressively. The celebrated Tyrolese was danced by Mdiles. Savigoni, Johanna Selling, a new and graceful dancer, and Duchateau. Irrespective of this *pas de trois*, the accompanying ballet was complete and elegantly appointed as ever. The theatre was well and brilliantly attended, if not inconveniently filled.

DRURY LANE.—The leading pieces of the week have been "The Fool's Revenge," "As You Like It," "Julius Caesar," and "Romeo and Juliet," with the same admirable casts which have hitherto distinguished the legitimate drama brought out here with such deserved success. Thursday evening was appropriated to the benefit of Mr. James Anderson, who, as the late co-lessee of the Surrey, and as an actor who for so many years has occupied very prominent ground as a tragedian of high repute, and on this occasion drew around him a warm circle of admirers. The play of "Julius Caesar" was revived for the occasion, Mr. James Anderson appearing as Marc Antony, Mr. Phelps as Brutus, and Mr. Walker Montgomery as Cassius. The afterpiece was the little opera of "Rosina," Miss Jenny Anderson, the daughter of the *benzofidile*, making her *début* as the heroine. She is very young and of attractive appearance, and her voice is a sweet soprano.

VICTORIA.—An entirely new drama, by Captain Mayne Reid, was produced at this theatre on Saturday evening, under the title of "The Maroon." All the mechanical resources of the establishment have been used to give effect to it, and from the crowded state of the house and the tokens of approbation expressed by the audience, it probably is destined to run the full period apportioned to pieces of a sensation character. It consists of a prologue and four acts, and the action of the drama is supposed to take place upon two slave estates in the island of Jamaica. The whole of the company is engaged upon its development, and upon Mr. F. Villiers, Mr. H. Vivash, and Mr. T. Lyon the main weight of the piece rests. These play respectively the maroon (Cabin), Chakra (a malicious and revengeful slave), and Jacob Jessuron (a Jew slave owner), and the first-named had been fitted with a character admirably suited to him. He played with much force and power, and was called before the curtain at the termination of the first act, when he rescues a slave from his pursuers. Some very effective scenery has been painted and arranged by Mr. Fenton, and we

may especially instance the Jumbe Rock overlooking Montego-bay, the Temple of Obeah, Mount Welcome, and the Cataract in Duppy's Hole. The latter is the sensation scene of the drama, and a marked effect is created by the death of Chakra, who is hunted down the torrent after the paddle of his boat has been shot from his hand by the maroon. The piece was preceded by the musical farce of "Twas I," and followed by the rustic ballet that has run so successfully.

THE THEATRES are now concluding their seasons, and little further novelty will be produced before Easter. At the HAY-MARKET, "The Woman in Maize" is still the leading attraction—At the PRINCESS'S, "Arrah-na-Pogue" promises to carry the away much longer than was even first anticipated.—A new comedy was brought out at the OLYMPIC on Monday, entitled "Always Intended," followed by "Swelling Day,"—"Faces in the Fire" still rules at the ST. JAMES'S.—The last nights of "Milky White" and "The Grim Bushes," at the STRAND, are announced, preparatory to a new drama and a new burlesque being produced for Easter.—At SADLER'S WELLS the legitimate drama is maintained with spirit, the pieces played during the week having included "Hamlet," the principal part sustained by Miss Marriott, "The Hunchback," "Fazio," "The Duchess of Malfi," &c.—THE PRINCE OF WALES, Tottenham-court-road, opens on Saturday evening next, under the auspices of Miss Marie Wilton, with a new extravaganza by Mr. J. J. Byron.—The other establishments have all brought forward a succession of dramas to tide them on to the Easter holidays.

MR. GEORGE PERREN, the talented tenor, intends giving English opera on a grand scale, at the Pavilion Theatre, a month after Easter, when artists of the highest celebrity will appear.

A MUSICAL festival of German singers is to take place at Dresden in the course of the summer. Not fewer than 16,600 are asserted to be already announced, of whom 8,000 will come from Saxony and 3,500 from Prussia. It is thought that 24,600 in all will attend.

The Passion Week performance of the "Messiah" by the National Choral Society will take place at Exeter Hall, on Monday next, the 10th inst. Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Palmer, and Mr. Sims Reeves are already engaged. Band and chorus of 700 performers. Conductor, Mr. G. W. Martin.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES KEAN gave three readings at Kingston, Jamaica, in the early part of March—two at the Court-houses, in the presence of the governor; the third at the theatre, to meet the anxiously expressed wishes of the less opulent classes. Their success seems to have been unbounded.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MATHEWS gave an evening party at the Beethoven Rooms, Harley-street, on Thursday evening last. It was largely attended by their professional friends, authors, critics, and members of the art world generally.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY FISHER.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Henry Fisher, an esteemed member of the company of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, and who expired on Saturday, the 25th ult., after a very short illness. Mr. Henry Fisher, who was a very young man, and bade fair to attain a good position in the profession he had adopted, was the son of Mr. David Fisher, of the Princess's Theatre.

DEATH OF MR. W. H. JOSEPHS.—We have to record the death, on the 26th ult., at 425, Fulham-road, Brompton, of Mr. W. H. Josephs, late stage manager at the Theatre Royal Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Sadler's Wells, London.

MISS AMY SEDGWICK gave readings at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, also at Clifton last week, and highly delighted her audience by her admirable rendering of her various selections.

THE Brighton theatrical season was brought to a close last week. Arrangements, however, had been made for re-opening the season at Easter with an opera company.

It is said that Miss Lucette and a dramatic company will open the Theatre Royal Halifax for a short season at Easter.

A SHORT series of Italian operas have been given at Liverpool with great success. The principal artists have been Mdile. Titien and Mr. Santley. Ginglini, who was to have appeared, was absent.

MR. WOODIN has been performing at Manchester for the past two weeks, where he has given his entertainment "An Eloquence Extraordinary" and "The Bachelor's Box" in the Assembly Room of the Free Trade Hall to crowded audiences.

MISS LOUISA PYNE'S VISIT TO AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.
My Dear Sir,—Perceiving in your edition of last week an announcement that Miss Louisa Pyne is about to visit America, I hasten (at her agent's) to inform you that it is not her intention to leave England at present. Although it would afford Miss Louisa Pyne the greatest gratification to re-visit the United States once again, she does not feel justified in accepting any engagement, owing to the continued indisposition of her father.

I remain, my dear sir, yours faithfully,
Bedford Chambers, EDWARD MURRAY.
28, Southampton-street (W.C.), March 30.

Sporting.

BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.

For the City and Suburban the Moctissima filly was deposited by The Grinder, about whom 10 to 1 was taken. Mail Train came into notice for this event also, and Accident was mentioned as an extreme outsider.

Liddington had slightly the call of Breadalbane for the Guineas 7 to 2 was the quoted price of each, but in one case it was offered and the other taken.

The Chester Cup betting was unimportant, except for an improvement in Lion, and Gratitude being backed for a little at 100 to 8.

There was a slight demonstration about The Duke for the Derby at the commencement of business, 8 to 1 being at first offered, but another point was obtainable at the close.

UNITED SUBURBAN HANDICAP.—10 to 1 agst Marquis of Hastings's The Grinder (t); 15 to 1 agst Mr. Merry's Moctissima filly (t); 15 to 1 agst Mr. W. Day's Mail Train (off); 40 to 1 agst Mr. Drew's accident (off).

CHESTER CUP.—11 to 1 agst Mr. C. Smith's Lion (t); 100 to 8 agst Mr. W. Robinson's Gratitude (t); 20 to 1 agst Mr. Barber's The Clown (t); 25 to 1 agst Mr. Monogram's La Fouques (t).

TWO THOUSAND.—7 to 2 agst Mr. Merry's Liddington (t); 7 to 2 agst Mr. H. Chaplin's Breadalbane (t); 12 to 1 agst Mr. Naylor's Chatanooga (off).

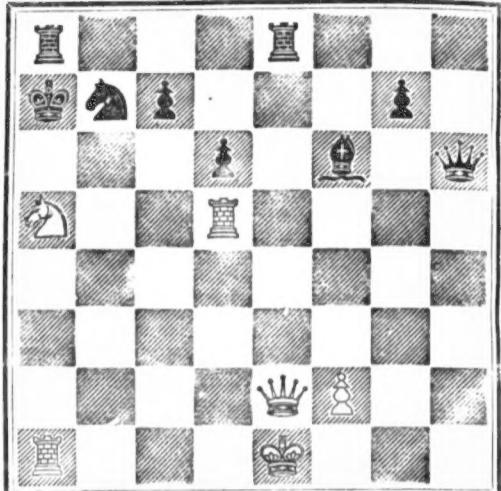
DERBY.—5 to 1 on The field (off); 5 to 1 agst Mr. H. Chaplin's Breadalbane (t); 9 to 1 agst Marquis of Hastings's The Duke (off); 20 to 1 agst Mr. Mackenzie's Oppressor (t); 30 to 1 agst Lord Westmoreland's Brahma (t).

A LOYAL HOUSE.—Canadian papers state that when the resolutions in favour of Confederation had been passed by the Legislative Assembly at Quebec, and the Assembly then adjourned at half-past four in the morning of the 11th ult., the members before leaving the house sang "God save the Queen." There was a majority in favour of the Confederation even among the French-speaking members for Lower Canada, and the general vote was very nearly three to one.

H. WALKER'S CHOCOLATE.—The new Patent Uncotopic Handies keep the hooks at all times in true position. By post, 100 needles, 1s.; a set of Penelope, 5d. to 1s.; set Uncotopic, 1s. Maker to the Queen, Leicester, and Graham-street, London.—[Advertisement.]

Chess.

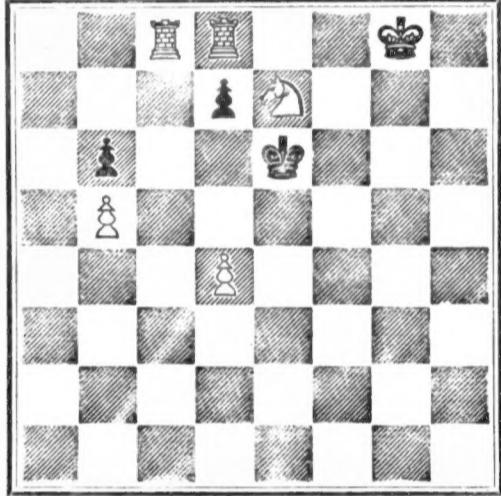
PROBLEM NO. 252.—By MENDHEIM.
Black.



White.

White to move, and mate in four moves.

PROBLEM NO. 253.—By C. W., of Sunbury.
Black.



White.

White to move, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 241.

- White.
1. B to K 5
2. B to Q 4
3. P takes P
4. B mates

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 242.
1. Kt to K Kt 7
2. R to Q R square
3. R to K B square
4. Kt mates

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 243.
1. P takes P (dis ch)
2. Castles
3. B to K R 4
4. B mates

J. BARTON.—At page 144 of Tomlinson's "Amusements in Chess" you will find a game between M. de la Bourdonnais and M. Boncourt, in which the first player conducted his game without sight of board or men.

INQUIRIES.—The solution of the celebrated Indian problem is as follows:—

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. K to Q Kt square | 1. P at Q Kt 4 moves |
| 2. B to Q B square | 2. P at Q Kt 3 " |
| 3. R to Q 2 | 3. R takes R |
| 4. R to Q 4 (mate) | |

T. BISHOP.—Your problems shall be examined. We may, however, at once state that No. 1 is faulty, as Black has an escape if he plays 8. Kt to K 4, enabling his King to play to K B 2 next move.

C. W.—The batch of problems has duly arrived, and is very acceptable.

W. PHILLIPS.—Black, at his 16th move, should have played Q Kt to K 7, and the following would have been the result:—

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 16. Q Kt to K 7 (ch) | |
| 17. K to R square | 17. Q to K B 5 |
| 18. Q takes Q B P (ch) | 18. K to K B square |
| 19. P to Kt 5 | 19. Kt takes R P (ch) |
| 20. K to Kt square | 20. Kt takes R |
| 21. K takes Kt | 21. Q mates |

DREADFUL DEATH BY BURNING NEAR WINDSOR.—A very painful affair has just occurred at Dorney, a small village in Bucks, about three miles from Windsor. An aged woman, named Lizzie Inman, formerly cook to Sir Charles Palmer, lodged in a cottage in the village, and early on Friday morning last, when the landlady was going down stairs, a strong smell of fire was perceived in the house. This alarmed the inmates, and the door of the old woman's bedroom was immediately broken, when Mrs. Inman was discovered lying upon her bed, with the clothes in flames, and gradually consuming the body of the poor creature, who was found to be dreadfully scorched, and in a dying state. The unfortunate woman was unable to account for the calamity, as she was scarcely sensible, but it is supposed, from a candlestick being found in the bed, that she must have accidentally set light to her night-dress or cap. Medical assistance was promptly obtained, but death put an end to the poor woman's sufferings, and she expired a few hours after she was found on fire.

Law and Police.

POLICE COURT. GUILDFRIAL.

AT EXCISE CHASE.—A young man of respectable appearance, named Edward Barnes, was charged before Sir F. G. Moon with embroiling the sum of £1,000, the property of his employer, Messrs. Bright and Thorpe, bathers, of Little Bell-say, Margate-saire, and with forging the receipt for the same. Evidence was given proving the payment of the money and its not being accounted for by the prisoner. The prosecutors have several cases against the prisoner, and it is believed that his defalcations will amount to over £60. He is the nephew of Mr. Thorpe, and was therefore much trusted. On Tuesday week, between eleven and half-past in the morning, the prisoner was sent with a shoulder of mutton to a customer, and instead of delivering it he left it at his lodgings, and immediately embarked for New York on board of the "Rhine," which sailed at midday. The ship left Gravesend at five o'clock on the Wednesday morning, and passed Deal at six o'clock the same evening. The prosecutors had by this time found out that the prisoner did not intend to return, and immediately placed the affair in the hands of Frederick Charles Brett, detective officer, who at once ascertained the name of the vessel in which the prisoner had taken his passage, and also her then position in the British Channel. At ten minutes past one on Thursday week, accompanied by Mr. Bright, he left the Waterloo-station for Southampton, and from thence went to Cowes, being unable to charter a sailing vessel there they proceeded to Ryde, where they were successful in engaging a pilot cutter named the Fox, well known for its fast sailing qualities and the experience of its owner and captain, Mr. Austin, a pilot. The Fox started in chase of the Rhine with a good breeze at three on the Friday morning, and after a long run sighted the Rhine at seven o'clock; all sail was now made to overtake her, as the wind being fair for both, and the Rhine being a square-rigged ship, everything was in her favour, but as Austin's agreement was that the remuneration should be doubled in the event of him overtaking the Rhine, all sail was dropped on the Little Fox, and she came up with the chase at a quarter to twelve. The captain of the Rhine received Brett very cordially and hospitably, and handed over to him the prisoner, who was brought to this court on the above charge. He was remanded, as there are other charges to be brought against him.

BOW STREET.

ATTEMPTED IMPOSITION.—Alfred Wilson, a well-dressed man, of about thirty years of age, was brought before Sir Thomas Henry, in custody of Horstow, the chief officer of the Hendon Society, on the charge of attempting to obtain money from the Countess of Waldegrave by false pretences, and by means of a forged letter. Mr. Unshausser Forrester produced the letter, which Lady Waldegrave had received and handed to him the previous morning. It was as follows:—"Grove House, Stratford-green, March 28, 1853.—My Lady,—I trust your largeness will allow the circumstances of the case in which I feel called upon to take a part to vindicate my wrongs for my doing so. Mrs. Hill, the object of this appeal, is from Langenhove and Pelson, and related, on her husband's side, to Mr. Hill, carpenter, there, and on her own side to Mr. Dodd, blacksmith, of Pelson. Yours truly, I am a native of Langenhove, and my late husband also a cousin of Mr. Cooper that, whom your ladyship knows as a tenant, I of course feel interested. I wrote to Mr. Cooper, at Langenhove, and last evening received £5, the result of Mr. Cooper's application to a few friends in Langenhove and Feldon. He suggested the propriety of my forwarding the case to your ladyship, knowing your ladyship's readiness to contribute to any necessitous case connected with that place. I would just say, that the poor widow has her husband under more appalling circumstances, having in June last been gored to death by an infatuated dog. She was left with nine children, and hence that she has been involved in dire distress by the loss of four miles cows, valued at £70. She is now under strain for rent, and requires immediate aid to save her goods from the hands of the brokers. Our year has been very bad, in giving her testimony to the case, and I have called on a few friends, and have succeeded as well as I could expect. As my servant was coming to town this morning, I took the liberty of enclosing the case to your ladyship's humane consideration, and I trust may be pardoned for so doing. A remanent, your ladyship's most obedient servant, ELIZABETH ANN COOPER. To the Right Hon. the Countess FRANCES WALDEGRAVE." Mr. C. Forrester said he suspected this was an imposition, because several frauds had been committed with similar letters to the same names occurred. The Hendon Society's officer (Horstow) said that he had been to Stratford-green, and found there was no Grove House there, except a tinsmith's shop, and that Mrs. Cooper was known there. There were Mr. and Mrs. Hill at 6, Warwick-place, Stratford-on-Town, the address in the notice of estrangement. When taken into custody prisoner remanded. The prisoner said he had been duped in the transaction. He was a respectable man, with a house, horses, and a legitimate occupation. A few weeks back he bought a horse from a person named King. They became acquaintances, and King induced him to give Mr. Cooper, who came at his house on Wednesday, and asked him to call for the letter as he was going to the West-end in the morning. He assured the magistrate that it was not so far from him that he was a respectable man. He was a dealer in jewellery, which he purchased at sale. Sir Thomas Henry said he would have every opportunity of referring to any one who knew him. The prisoner, who seemed to avail himself of that opportunity, was remanded. Sir Thomas Henry was prepared to take bail in two串ties of £50 each, but the prisoner said he did not know any one in London who would be bound for him.

MAHLBOROUGH STREET.

NUMEROUS CHARGES OF FRAUD AGAINST AN ALLEGED RUSSIAN COUNT.—Eugene Minkiewicz, who describes himself as a Russian count, and resided to the Duke of Hamilton and Prince Demidoff, charged with defrauding Mr. Unwin, of the firm of Albert and Unwin, court hairdressers, of Fleet-duty, was brought before Mr. Tyrwhitt. Mr. Edward Dillons Lewis, of Great Marlborough-street, appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Lewis, Jun., of Ky-lane, for the defence. The Duke of Hamilton was present, and was accommodated with a seat on the bench. Mr. E. D. Lewis said he appeared on behalf of several West-end tradesmen to prosecute the prisoner for a series of impudent frauds. In the month of January the prisoner called on Messrs. Unwin and Albert, the court hairdressers of Piccadilly, and represented himself as the Count Minkiewicz, and related to the Duke of Hamilton and Prince Demidoff, and on the facts of that representation Mr. Unwin advanced him two separate sums of £50 each. He (Mr. Lewis) would be able to show that all the representations made by the prisoner were untrue, and that he was merely an impostor. There were three other charges against the prisoner. In one case he had obtained £50 from one of Mr. Unwin's assistants; in a second he had obtained a sum of £10 from Mrs. Hawlings, lodging-house keeper, ofbury-street, St. James's, upon the representations that he had £700 in the bank of Messrs. Bonhams; and in the third case he had obtained money by representing that he was connected with the Russian embassy and related to the Duchess of Hamilton. There were other charges against the prisoner, but he (Mr. Lewis) did not propose to prefer them at present, in which the prisoner had given Mr. Hale, shirt maker, an order for goods to the amount of £70, and had extorted money from Mr. Hellingsham, lodging-house keeper, of Jermyn-street, aling similar representations to those in the other cases. There was a second warrant out against the prisoner, for conspiring with another person, not in custody, to defraud several persons, and he should have to ask the magistrate, in his discretion, either to remand the prisoner or to commit him on these charges, and allow him to be brought up again for the investigation of the other charges. Mr. Thomas Unwin, of the firm of Albert and Unwin, 24, Piccadilly, said: On the 2nd January the prisoner called on me. He said he was Count Minkiewicz, and I had previously seen him at the shop. He said he was going to Scotland, to receive the sum of £500, and he asked me to lend him £5. He said he was the brother-in-law of the Duke of Hamilton, and cousin of Prince Demidoff. It was entirely on the faith of those representations, that I advanced him the £5. The same evening I received a note from the prisoner having a coronet and the name of Count Minkiewicz, and I had previously seen him at the shop. 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THE PROPOSED NEW POLAR EXPEDITION.—GROUP OF ARCTIC EXPLORERS IN THEIR COSTUME.

THE PROPOSED POLAR EXPEDITION.

At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, held last week at Burlington House, the practicability of reaching the North Pole, taking either Spitzbergen or Smith's Sound as the base of operations, was elaborately discussed before a very numerous audience. Sir Roderick Murchison, the president of the society, occupied the chair. Sir George Biddell, Sir Edward Belcher, Admiral Collinson, and Admiral Fitzroy took part in the discussion, which was eventually adjourned.

Now that this question is revived again, a picture of Dr. Kane and his companions, who went in search of Sir John Franklin, will not be unacceptable to our readers.

The engraving above represents these heroic men in their fur costume. The dangers and hardships which they went through are subjects of recent history, and will be well remembered by many of our readers.

A PROMISING MARRIAGE.—A marriage took place at the mairie of the 8^e arrondissement, Paris. The bridegroom, an honest and industrious locksmith, was uneducated, and, when called on to sign the register, marked a cross. The bride, on the contrary, although belonging to a poor family, had received an excellent education. Nevertheless, when the pen was passed to her, she also signed a cross. The bridesmaid, a former schoolfellow of the bride's, having expressed her astonishment, the young wife replied, "Would you have me humiliate my husband? To-morrow I will commence myself teaching him to read and write!"

DEATH OF MR. COBDEN.

We deeply regret to announce that Richard Cobden, the great free-trade champion, died on Sunday, at Suffolk-street, Pall-mall East, and in the sixty-first year of his age. He had been in a declining state of health for some time past, every appearance in public being followed, for the last few years, by a fit of prostration. He was residing at his country seat at Midhurst, but came to town, we understand, to speak against the Colonial Defences Bill. The state of his health, however, forbade the exertion, and it was recently announced that some months must elapse before he would be able to resume his parliamentary duties. It turned out that in fact his parliamentary career had then finally closed.

Mr. Cobden was born at Midhurst, in Sussex, in the year 1804. His father was a small farmer in that vicinity, and his son, finding there was no room for him in that contracted sphere, left at an early age for Manchester, where one of his relations was engaged in the cotton manufacture. Here the energy, tact, and assiduity of young Cobden speedily began to be felt, and he was promoted to the position of a traveller, or, as the class used at that time to be termed, "a bagman." In the commercial room of the various hotels young Cobden was always a welcome inmate; and there were a few years ago old "roadsters" who used to speak familiarly and affectionately of their old companion, and who recognised his free-trade arguments, urged with so much effect in St. Stephen's, as having been many years before employed after dinner in the commercial traveller's room. Pushing his way upward he secured for himself a partnership in a considerable manufacturing firm, and in the effort to extend his business he visited the United States and

also the empire of Russia. While mainly engaged in commercial transactions he always kept his eyes open to the broader questions of the political and social condition of the countries he visited; and pamphlets on Russia and the United States in their relations with this country, "By a Manchester Manufacturer," contained the germs of most of those free-trade and politico-economical opinions which were developed by him in his future career.

It was about this time that the Anti-Corn Law League was established in Manchester, but neither Mr. Cobden nor Mr. Bright were original members. When they did join they infused an immense amount of fresh blood and energy into the League. The country was divided into districts, subscriptions were raised, lecturers were appointed, but the whole interest centred in the peregrinations of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and one or two other men, whose exertions at that time, wholly disinterested as they were, present an amount of labour done and self-denial gone through which is probably without a parallel outside the cause of religion. There was no part of the country which these indefatigable speakers did not visit, some of them five or six times over, and in every case large and enthusiastic audiences hung upon their arguments. To them was also due the idea of starting the League meetings in the metropolis, held in Drury Lane and Covent Garden Theatres, for it was felt from the first that to move London was tenfold more difficult than to move the provinces, while if London were gained the cause was gained. Before matters had gone so far Mr. Cobden sought a seat in the House of Commons. He offered himself for Stockport as early as the dissolution which followed the election of King William in 1837, but he was then defeated by a manufacturer whose works were in the town. In the following dissolution, however, in 1841, when Lord Melbourne made his appeal

to the country in favour of a fixed duty on corn, Mr. Cobden offered himself again, and was this time successful.

When Lord Derby came into power, in 1852, he showed himself one of the bitterest opponents of the Conservative Cabinet, and under the pretext that an attempt would be made to restore protection, he, in conjunction with Mr. Bright and his old friends of the Corn-law League, threatened a revival of that body and the agitation it worked. Whether they would have been successful or not may be doubted, but the ousting of the Government by the coalition rendered the prosecution of the scheme unnecessary. The war with Russia, which soon after followed, found in Mr. Cobden a strenuous opponent. The course he took in relation to the war was very distasteful to his constituents, who at that time showed the feeling of hostility to Russia that was common to all their countrymen, but it was not till a few years afterwards that the connexion between him and them was severed. When parliament was dissolved in 1857, in consequence of the vote condemning Sir John Bowring's conduct in bringing on the Chinese war, Mr. Cobden did not venture to offer himself again for the West Riding. He became a candidate for the town of Huddersfield, where there was already a moderate Liberal in the field. The result was rather humiliating to the champion of free trade. He was beaten by his opponent.

For the next two years Mr. Cobden remained out of parliament, and spent a good portion of the time abroad reconvalescing his health, which even then, and indeed for some time before, had shown symptoms of weakness. But at the next general election, in 1859, when Mr. Cobden was in the United States, his friends nominated him for the borough of Rochdale, and had influence enough to return him for the seat. The issue of that election, it is well known, was unfavourable to the Conservative party, and Lord Palmerston or more resumed office. In the distribution of offices his lordship avoided the mistake which his colleague, Lord Russell, had made twelve or thirteen years before, and kept the presidency of the Board of Trade, with a seat in the Cabinet, vacant for some time, waiting Mr. Cobden's acceptance. Mr. Cobden, on arriving in England, hastened to the Premier,

and had an interview with him; but the result was that he declined the offer. He said afterwards nothing could be more handsome than the way in which the offer was made, and that if his choice were given him the Board of Trade was the office he would select; but he did not think it would be right to take office under a man whom he had spent so much of his late years in abusing.

Mr. Cobden has the merit of having pursued a consistent course throughout his whole life. What he was when he entered parliament, that he remained to the end. He was, upon the whole, honourably free from indulgence in personalities. Whenever he spoke he was so full of his subject that he had no room for notice of his opponents, except as they were the advocates of principles which he had undertaken to combat. Hence he has left behind him no acrimonious feeling, no personal enemy, and his loss will be mourned as sincerely by those on the Opposition as on the Ministerial benches.

It soon began to be whispered that Sir Robert Peel was shaken in his corn-law opinions. In 1846 five years after Mr. Cobden had entered parliament, there was no room for doubt, and Sir Robert introduced the measure which is now the law of the land. As soon as the contest was over a proposal was made to raise £100,000 by way of subscription in recognition of the services of Mr. Cobden in this cause, by which it was well understood his own private affairs had become impaired through his neglect of them. The proposal was warmly taken up in various quarters, and though the sanguine anticipations of its promoters were not realized, the handsome sum of £70,000 was raised, with a portion of which the small property at Midhurst, on which the hon. member had worked when a boy, was purchased for him, while the remainder was invested by Mr. Cobden himself in American railway stock.

The passing of the Corn-law Repeal Bill was the last act of the Peel Ministry. The Cabinet went out of office on the day the royal assent was given. Lord John Russell became Premier, and in the distribution of his offices it was understood he offered to Mr. Cobden some subordinate office—we believe the Vice-Presidency of the Board of Trade, which Mr. Cobden declined.

THE LATE RICHARD COBDEN, ESQ., M.P.

Literature.

A WOMAN'S SACRIFICE.

A TALE OF THE AMERICAN WAR.

SHE had been standing there by the window an hour at least, idly tracing with her finger upon the damp pane, or looking dreamily off to the low hills, upon which the spring-rains were drearily falling.

In her simpler dress of brown, with delicate rose ribbon knotted at the throat—golden bands of soft hair forming fit framework for the sweet girlish face, with its delicate bloom on cheek and lip; and above all, the large lustrous eyes of deepest brown, welling with light and earnest with quiet depths of thoughtfulness, she formed a picture, than which in travelling far and wide none could find a fairer.

"Oh! how I wish it didn't rain!"

She was turning from the window, when she was caught in the arms of a young man, who had stolen quietly to her side, and her impotent words smothered by a shower of kisses.

"Harry! When did you come back? Oh, how glad I am to see you!" and, though at first startled by his sudden embrace, the way she now nestled in his arms, and lifted her sweet eyes brimming with love to his face was conclusive proof of the bond existing between the two.

Katie Harper was an orphan. Her mother dying when she was only a few years old, had left her to the care of an only brother, whom she had never seen since the days they played together, with no deeper shadow on their brow than that flung down by the tossing branches of the trees under which they sported.

His home was far away to the west, and letters came often to Mrs. Harper, telling of his increasing wealth, his broad acres, and, above all, his childless home.

So, when the young mother began to feel the ebbing away of her frail life, and marking the hectic flush upon her wasted cheeks, and the daily-increasing weakness which crept over her, knew that ere long she should lie down by the quiet grave in which slept the one love of her youth and her brief life, she wrote a letter to this distant brother, entrusting to his care her little motherless girl, and praying him, for the love he bore his sister in the days of their innocent childhood, to tender with the child, loving and watchful, as though she were his own.

A few days, and all was over; Little Katie's wondering eyes had looked their last upon her "pretty mamma," and upon the home of her babyhood.

The stern-faced man—whose tears had dropped like rain upon

the quiet dead face, and whose first convulsive embrace of the little Katie had been so violent as to make the child draw away with tears of pain and fright—had taken her away with him to his distant home, to be indeed a very crown and comfort to his declining years.

His wife, a tender-hearted, blue-eyed little woman, had opened her arms at once to the little stranger, and into them had crept her Katie, taking each year deeper and deeper hold upon their love.

And so her years fled away, until one day she stood before them a tall, graceful girl, blushing and smiling, with worlds of light in her brown eyes, so like her dead mother's.

Harry Clayton, standing straight and comely by her side, claimed her of their hands for his bride.

"What! Our little girl be married!" said Uncle David, looking up from the paper he was reading, and laying his hands on the brown fingers of his wife, who, through fast-coming tears, was busily darning in the sunshine.

"Oh, no, no, young man; she is too much a child; wait a couple of years yet."

But no; Harry must have his bride with the coming summer-days, and Katie—the dash of crimson in her cheeks growing brighter, and the long lashes rising and falling over the lustrous eyes—slid one little hand into Harry's, laid the other on the old man's grizzled head, and a kiss trembled over his forehead full of eloquent pleading.

So it was settled.

The wonderful quiltings were commenced.

Rolls of snowy cloth were brought forth—garments fashioned and curiously wrought by Katie's cunning hand. The soft muslin and delicate lace for the all-important dress were bought, and fitted faultlessly to the graceful form of the expectant bride, then in its snowy flowing perfections hung carefully away between sheets perfumed with lavender and rue, in the best room closet.

And as Katie stood by the window, as we first found her on the rainy afternoon, it was the thought of the coming day—now but one week distant—which was to turn her steps away from the tried and loving friends of all her bright girlhood—to walk the dim out-reaching future with her lover, nor leave his side again until that stern-browed reaper, whose sickle is so often thrust between loving hearts, should separate them. It was such thoughts that filled her eyes with earnest shadow and her heart with vague unrest.

But not for one moment did this young heart falter in its trust of her chosen husband! Nightly kneeling at her prayers, and often in the busy day, did she thank God for her noble Harry. Her young life had been very happy. No sad minor chords had stolen into the song her young heart was ever singing; and as she thanked God for her lover and all good gifts crowning her life, her prayers were simple, glad, and beautiful.

She came to her Father, as a happy, loving child, never knowing aught of his chastening hand or frowning face, and expecting naught but smiles and tender favour.

Poor child! Could she tell, as she looked off upon the hills, and sighed at the tiresome rain, that her life could not ever be through smiling, sunlit levels; that just beyond lay frowning steeples her feet must climb, and already the clouds were lowering for that bitter rain-fall that comes down upon every life?

Could she think, while her heart trembled upon her lip, in prayer and thanks to God for her darling Harry, that the time was shortly coming when her soul should moan, like spent waves, low at his feet, and its wailing cry should be, "Oh, God, let me die! let me die!"

Thank God, the veil is there, and we cannot peer beyond into the future which awaits us!

Harry had been in New York for some weeks past, and his sudden return and meeting with his promised bride we have witnessed.

As she looked into his face, Katie fairly started at the intensity of his gaze.

The clear eyes seemed burning into her heart, with their look of strong enduring love.

The firm mouth was set, square, and resolute, and iron, only as she spoke, and then, around the chiselled lips, a smile, tender as a woman's, settled.

"Oh, Harry, what is the matter? Why do you look so strangely at me? Your face is white as snow, and your hands are so cold—like ice!"

And the trembling girl tried to free herself from his arms.

"Oh, heaven, how can I leave her, my darling one!"

And a rain of kisses covered face and hair.

Katie, now thoroughly alarmed, thinking her lover had gone suddenly crazy, tried again to loose herself from his tightening embrace, while the tears streamed down her startled, upturned face.

Seeing her alarm, the young man controlled himself with a mighty effort, and, still retaining her hand, led her to the sofa, where, sitting down beside her, he said, "Don't be frightened, darling. I have something to tell you when you are calm."

Whiter grew the beautiful face, and the small fingers clenched themselves in the folds of her dress; for she knew, by her lover's manner, that something terrible was coming.

"Katie"—and his voice was low and quiet as he began—"I have been in New York, you know. I arrived there to find flag flying, drums beating, armed men thronging the streets, and an earnest look in every face. Business was forgotten or unheeded—party-feeling swept away in one overwhelming flood of patriotism.

"Katie, I saw a gallant band of men one day with firm, unflinching step, amid the cheers of thousands and the clash of bells, march in battle array through that city, in answer to their country's



call for the brave and chivalrous of her sons. Our country called on her children to rally to her rescue; and, Katie, could I stay behind? Could I live at rest with my conscience and honour—could I feel that the arm that should be fighting for my country would ever be blessed in its labours, if I stayed a weak coward, at home?

"No, darling, your face was with me, your dear eyes smiled upon me, as I enrolled my name upon the list of our country's defenders; and as I turned away for one week's preparation before I go, your sweet voice sounded evermore in my ears low words of love and cheer.

"So, my own, I have come back to say good-bye, to claim this hand a little sooner than we expected, and go forth to do my duty with my wife's blessing!"

He ceased. His face was beautiful in the gathering twilight, with high resolve; and earnestly he awaited the answer of his stricken Katie.

Lower and lower drooped the head. The little hand in his grew cold as the dead, and the other hid in her dress, clenched so tight that each nail almost drew blood; but still she spoke not. In her heart was being born a new phase of her life-experience—the power of suffering.

One gasp, and the sweet child-life died; and the face, ashen, yet wreathed with a faint smile, that was raised as she laid her white cheek to his, and whispered, "Darling, you have done right. God bless you!"

We will pass over that bitter evening. It is too sacred in its terrible grief for any eye but the pitying father's to see.

But that night, sitting on the floor in her little room, after her weeping Aunt Mary had left her, this young girl fought a terrible battle.

All her bright hopes of the future marshalled themselves before her, but she put them down into her heart, and watched them die. In the bright moonlight she marked part of her wedding outfit hang ghost-like on the wall, and her head sank into the low casket; and the night-dew from the open window fell on her bright hair, and the cold moon smiled down upon her as it did on thousand others in the Gethsemane of their grief—bright and unpitying. Long shivering sobs shook her frame, and once, throwing her clasped hands above her head, she prayed madly for death; then a quieter mood overtook her, her face grew beautiful with its great love, as she whispered to herself, "He said, whatever came, God wills it. If he lives to come back to me, we shall be the happier; if he dies—oh, God! if he dies! why, then he will be my sacrifice to our country, and I ought to give it willingly, proudly."

So the night passed in bitter watching, with these two souls, loving with a love deathless as the angels, yet renouncing their happy future and laying their love on the altar of duty.

The next evening, clad in her pretty bridal dress, her face wonderful with its mighty love and faith, Katie was married. None present but the good old uncle and aunt, who tried to smile behind their tears, and Harry's widowed mother, wearing a look upon her noble face such as Roman mothers must have worn as they sent their sons to battle.

The next morning—a parting which none but God and angels witnessed—between the young soldier, clad in his suit of blue, and his pale young wife. A group assembled at the depot to watch Harry and some dozen other brave boys off; earnest looks, cheering words, sobs, and farewells; but apart from them all, Harry and his bride, hands clasped as iron, and eyes evermore crying farewell, one last clinging kiss, as he lifted her light form in his arms with a mad embrace; the pitiful smile on her white lips, as she bravely to the last controlled herself and waved good-bye as he bounded on the car. The conductor's cry, the clang of the bell, the slow-moving train, with its one figure, stern and fixed as marble, waving good-bye to one sulking still upon the steps; then a curve in the road—all was gone; and with a faint sob the little figure fell back into Uncle David's kind arms, still and set as death.

Months passed. For a long time Katie moved about the house noiseless and pale as a ghost. Dark circles formed under her eyes, and her cheek lost something of its roundness—its roses died. The old couple looked upon her, ever gentle, loving, careful of their every want, with aching hearts. They missed her winning, childish ways, her songs, her merry laugh; but they found other traits of character which, before this trial, they never knew. All the pettishness, the sometimes quick temper, the restless will, were replaced by a sweet gentleness, a womanly control and tenderness, which are ever the fruit of suffering. Letters from Harry were frequent as love and opportunity could make them. Always cheerful, earnest, strong, they breathed courage and trust into the loving heart of his wife; and by-and-by, as month followed month, Katie's eye grew glad again, and her voice took something of its old merry ring, as she sang once more around the house.

In the God they both trusted they were strong.

Autumn's transient diadem flamed and faded upon the hills, the sweet woolly days of Indian summer brooded over the dying year; and Harry's regiment went into their winter-quarters. Then came a letter full of joy to the quiet home in the northland. Harry was coming home! And at last he came. The same train that had taken them away that terrible morning, swept him triumphantly to the little station, where his wife awaited him.

Sunburnt and worn, a true warrior, but Katie saw nothing of that. She only knew it was her Harry, alive and well, who folded her so rapturously to his heart, and whispered in her ear over and over again, as they rode joyfully home with beaming Uncle David, "Thank God! thank God, my darling!"

Only a short furlough. Two weeks, and he went away again; but what splendid times they had! How he thrilled them with narrations of the battles he had taken part in! How his cheeks burned as he told of the terrible disaster of Ball-Ran, how our men fought well and bravely, until blunders and panic got hold of them, and they fled like sheep before the foe! And Katie, nestling closer to his side, first murmured thanks to God that her noble husband had not been one among the ghastly, horrible dead; then thought proudly, if he had been in command, it surely would not have ended so disgracefully.

Spring laughed over the earth, and summer flashed her bright eyes, and waved dusky hands of shadow each day to the ardent sun, then Harry's letters came fewer and briefer. Battles were fought. He was ever attended by good angels, that turned aside whistling bullets and gleaming blade. His name was mentioned in the papers for his bravery and cool overwhelming courage. He received promotion, from sergeant to Lieutenant, from Lieutenant to captain; and, finally, his last letter had brought word that he expected soon to astound his little wife with the signature of Major Clayton. Then came that terrible cluster of battles which struck terror to the hearts of a waiting nation!

Each hour for seven days flashed souls out of men; while pale-faced mothers and wives at home covered their faces before God, and He heard the low moan of their breaking heart!

No letter from Harry!

Alone in her room, through day and night, Katie sat, almost hearing the thundering of that conflict, which might be rending and killing her heart's idol.

As she never prayed before, this young girl prayed now.

"Not my will, O Father, but Thine! Oh, teach my poor heart to say it!"—her aunt heard her cry one night, kneeling by her bedside—"but, O dear Heavenly Father, in pity spare my Harry! I cannot—cannot make this sacrifice!"

Then came the newspapers, with their terrible lists of "killed."

Carefully Uncle David looked them over, while Katie's tread sounded on in the little room above.

Still no letter—no, never!

Days passed, and over this household, suspense, almost more agonizing than known calamity, darkened.

At last, just in the dusk of one hot summer evening, they all sat in the porch trying to catch one cooling breath of air from the heavens, over which a dark thunder-cloud was brooding.

Katie, her head on Uncle David's shoulder, looking idly at the flashing lightning, and tried to answer his kind jests with smiles.

Suddenly, the galloping of a horse, and its sudden ceasing at their gate startled them; and up through the interlaced bushes and vines of the winding walk a figure, in faded blue, came with slow, halting step.

Katie's heart gave one great bound, but as quickly grew still; for the old house-dog snarled, growling off at Uncle David's sharp command, and he would never have done so had it been Harry.

It proved to be one of the boys from their village, who had gone with Harry, and now came home, crippled and maimed for life, to halt painfully throughout a few quiet years, until nature had time to lay him under her kindly soil.

Touthing his battered cap with grand military salute, he cast one pitying look at the expectant face of Katie, and handed forth a letter.

Quick as the lightning she had watched, she sprang between the outstretched hand of her uncle and the letter, caught it with a mad, hysterical cry, "It's mine—mine!" and vanished from their sight, flying to her room.

One moment they listened, and then a mad peal of terrible laughter rang through the old house, a bounding step dashed down the stairs, and Katie stood in their midst.

"I tell you I don't believe it—it can't be. I tell you it can't be! Why don't you laugh, old man?" catching hold of her stunned uncle, "for Harry's well—it can't be otherwise!"

The soldier, with a quirk, "Great God! I can't stand this," limped slowly down the flower-fringed walk, shutting his eyes to the long song of the maniac girl, which followed him even unto his death; and the three were left alone in their own grief.

Tenderly they bore the poor girl to her bed, and laid her passive upon it—for her first frenzy had given way to death-like torpor—shedding softing tears upon the sharp, pinched features, and the bright, flowing hair.

Her hands clinched close to her bosom the terrible letter, whose sudden coming had so suilten her life.

Gently they clasped the little hands, shuddered at the moans that burst from her bosom, and read through blinding tears the following:—

"Washington Hospital, Washington, D. C.

"Dear Madam.—Your husband, Major H. Clayton, lies, it is feared, mortally wounded at this hospital. All care shall be taken that his remains reach you safely, in case he dies before hearing from you.

"Especially,

"Acting-Surgeon B. L. KNAPP."

All the night they watched her, fearing yet almost knowing her sufferings might end in death, for they would spare her the bitter future, stretching out before the young feet.

In the morning, having her a moment, her aunt came back to find her sitting upright on the bed, her hand pressed to her brow, and while her sunken eyes wandered around the room, her pale lips were brokenly saying, over and over again, "He said it was my sacrifice, didn't he, Katie?" Seeing her aunt's pitying eyes upon her, "But what a sacrifice! I did not think it would be this."

Soon, further consciousness awoke over her mind, and a look of settled misery rested upon her face. Slowly rising, and beginning mechanically to bind up her heavy braid, she said to her aunt, who tried to assist her, "I must go to him."

To that decision she held, and by the look of strength and mortality will in her eyes, they knew she would go, and dared not oppose her.

Uncle David was rapidly made ready to accompany her, and next morning they started.

A journey through pleasant fields, and busy towns, which neither noticed; change of cars, and change from dawning day to night-fall, and finally they stood at their journey's end.

People turned wondering to watch the jaded couple; old man, and stony-faced girl, with eyes fixed ever on the distant view, and pale lips locked in dumb, terrible smile.

And as the attendant showed them through the terrible wards, where men lay dying, brave to the last, he brushed away a tear, for who could look on that beautiful face in its stony woe, and not weep—without God made them fearless?

"There, sir," he said to Uncle David, pointing out to him the doctor, who was bending over a cot near by, then turned back, muttering excuses to himself for his unusual tears.

The doctor smiled. Katie caught one look of the white face on the pillow, and with a cry plaintive as her breaking heart could make it, lay upon the bosom of her Harry.

The two men moved aside—such grief was sacred—the Doctor whispering to Uncle David, "Just in time; the poor fellow is dying!"

A smile, beautiful as his brave young life had been, trembled over the dying soldier's face; the grey eyes unclosed, grew luminous as the heavens with a mighty love; the feeble hand stole caressingly over the falling braids and delicate features, while, faintly whispered, fall the words:

"Is it, is it my darling? my poor little brown-eyed bird?"

Not a word from the still smiling mouth bending over him; not a tear from the wild eyes!

His face grew troubled, and he faintly moved his head, saying, "No; no; it is not Katie!"

Close to his bosom crept the little figure; the lashes trembled over the stony eyes, and a long shivering sob shook the bed on which the dying hero lay.

Gaspingly, brokenly, came the words, "It can't be my brave little girl! She would not look so terribly! God gave—he takes away! Tell her"—and the voice was broken with gasps—"this is the sacrifice we talked of—long, long ago!"

The words died away, soft as echoes of the mountain, and a smile of ineffable peace seemed settling around his lips.

The brown eyes grew tender, holy in their beauty, above him; the white lips threw off their cold, dumb smile, and trembled with her woman's heart upon them; one long, silent kiss, as she drew his head to her bosom; the sweet lips parted, and, even above the low waters sounding in his ears, he heard the cry—

"Oh, Harry, it is Katie! Take me with you!"

A feeble answering kiss—Infinite peace around the beautiful mouth—and her ear and God's caught the whisper, "Yes, sweet one, it is Katie! God bless my little ewe-lamb! Come soon—die happy—country—Katie!" and he was dead.

They stole away, weeping. Closer to the cold bosom crept poor, weary Katie, drawing the stiffening arms about her evermore, and murmuring a soft, tender lullaby. None disturbed her; none dared. All through the waning night she lay beside her dead husband, and when morning broke through the wards, they found her dead beside him.

"And then he drew a dial from his pocket,

And looking on it with lack-lustre eyes,

Says very wisely, 'Tis ten o'clock:

'Thus we may see,' quoth he, 'how the world wags.'

—SHAKESPEARE.

BASSON'S POCKET DIALS are artistic, accurate time-markers, made in every size, suitable for everybody, and are sent to every part of the kingdom, safe by post, at 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 guineas in gold cases; and at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25 guineas in silver cases. A descriptive pamphlet post free for two stamps—J. W. Benson, Ludgate-hill, watch and clock maker to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—[Advertisement.]

NEW WORKS.

THE WATCH TOWER. London: 158, Fleet-street.—Part I of this new shilling publication is now before us, and in every respect it comes up to what was anticipated of it when the names of the contributors to its pages were first announced. The part containing many ably-written articles on a variety of subjects, both religious and social, all treated in a quiet yet fervent tone.

THE DAY OF REST. London: Ward, Lock, and Taylor, 158, Fleet-street.—This new work is published at the same office as the above; but its price is only one penny. For the price its contents are remarkably good; and if sustained in the same spirit with which it has been commenced will no doubt be highly successful.

ODDS AND ENDS, NO. 3.—WAYSIDE THOUGHTS. By D'ARCY W. THOMPSON. Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas. Rainy Weather, or the Philosophy of Sorrow; Goethe's, or the Philosophy of Horror; and Te Deum Laudamus, and the Philosophy of Joy, comprise the contents of this little Scotch publication. Each are quaintly written, but are of a more religious tone than the previous issues of "Odds and Ends."

LETT'S MONTHLY POSTAL ALMANACK.—This is a very useful companion to Letts's well-known diaries. Almost every particular relating to the post-office, the arrival and departure of mails for the current month, the chief offices and hours of delivery of letters in the principal towns of England, and a variety of other matter, is to be found in this monthly almanack.

FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

As in the winter, we found the Grecian style revived in collars, and afterwards in vester, we have now to chronicle its re-appearance in dresses. The body à la Grecque will be very much in favour, especially for young ladies. We are assured that, even for at-home dresses during daytime, low dresses will be much worn—of course, with guimpes and sleeves. However, as many ladies will not easily resign the pretty little vester which have been so admired, plain bodies will also be in vogue. They will be made low, and covered with vests of lace, of tulle worked with beads, or of embroidered muslin. These are charming when made of lace, and finished off with a lace sash tied behind, and falling in wide ends upon the skirt. They are destined, we believe, during the summer to replace the pelisse, which, without contradiction, is less elegant. Already they are fashionable for evening, theatre, or dinner dress. They will be made also, lined with taffetas, of a colour suitable to the pattern or trimming on the dress; and round the edge of the lining will be placed a ruche of ribbon to match, over which will fall the border of the lace. Under a vest of this style a chemicotte of nanook should be worn, held in at the waist by a wide soutache. These do not exclude the square pelisse at present, and perhaps the latter is rather more suitable for elderly ladies. For morning dresses, tight sleeves are still in vogue. The ensemble of crinoline will yet have some time to wait before their final triumph. Skirts are made with as much train and as full as ever, and must have well-made crinolines to give them an air of elegance. Bodies with bands are also not yet prescribed, and the cultrines are much ornamented either with beads, or passementerie, &c. As to out-door costume, one thing we may positively aver, that pelerins, &c., will be very short—excessively so for morning dress, when they will be of the same material as the dress. The inclemency of the weather has prevented any great change in the materials employed for bonnets. Those for the present month are, if possible, smaller than those worn last month, and may be described as fanchions on the top of the head, with, in some cases, a fall of lace at the back; but in most cases the whole of the back hair is left uncovered. However, we must confess that the present style is almost universally becoming, and the Marie Stuart fashion is peculiarly becoming to a young face. Black tulle bonnets seem much in favour; thus a capote of black tulle worked with gold beads, chignon of blue flowers falling over a coquille of black lace, and a bow or narrow ribbon. Strings of blue ribbon. Black tulle gold beads, and blue flowers inside.—*Le Follet.*

SEARCHING A GRAVE FOR EVIDENCE.

A FEW weeks ago we reported a case in the Scotch Court of Session, which was adjourned for the purpose of searching the grave of a man who had been long buried, and with whom it was supposed documents bearing upon the case had been interred. The *Banffshire Journal* reports the result of the search:—In terms of the remit to the sheriff of this county (*says the Journal*) to have the grave of the late Hans George Leslie, of Dunlugas, opened, to search for a parcel stated to have been placed in the coffin at the time of the burial, Sheriff Gordon had the grave opened on Friday last. The Dunlugas burial-ground is in the churchyard of Alva, within three miles of Banff. The family ground is enclosed by a wall, the masonry being carried several feet downwards into the soil of the graveyard. The sheriff arrived at the churchyard about nine o'clock in the morning. Besides the sheriff, there were also present at the opening Drs. Manson and Barclay, Banff; Mr. George Cumming, writer, Banff; Mr. Allen, solicitor, Banff; and Mr. Crawford, S.S.C., Edinburgh. The parish minister and sexton, at the request of the sheriff and parties, were present to point out the grave; and we are glad to say that, besides those officially connected with the proceedings, there were no other persons present. Under direction of the sheriff, and after the usual forms, the workmen commenced to open the grave. The work was one of considerable labour, the coffin being 8½ feet below the surface. When found, the coffin was entire; it was raised to the surface by means of tackle erected by Mr. Lawrence, mason, Banff, and being placed upon an adjoining gravestone, was opened. The remains were found partially embedded in a moist dark substance, and part of the graveclothes were to be seen. At first, and for some time, it seemed as if there were nothing like a packet in the coffin. On closer examination, however, and on touching the chest, there appeared to detach itself from the right side what had formerly seemed to form part of the body, but what was not unlikely to be the parcel said to have been deposited at the time of the funeral. It appeared about ten inches long by four inches broad, and about half an inch thick. That it was parchment or paper, or indeed what particular substance it might be, was not, at least at first sight, very evident, the substance having an almost pulpy consistency. There could be little doubt, however, that it was a packet of some kind or other, and on being cleared of the enveloping matter and washed, this packet was placed in a tin case, which had been provided by Mr. Allan. The coffin was closed, replaced in the grave, and covered; and the sheriff then left for Banff, taking with him the box and its contents. The operations occupied from nine o'clock in the morning till nearly six in the evening. Of course we are not in a position to say that the parcel found contained the deeds said to be missing, nor probably will the full information be known until the sheriff makes his official report. The instructions from the Court of Session, we may here recall, were to search for the parcel, "and, if found, to examine the contents thereof, so as to ascertain whether it does or does not contain the said writs, or either of them, and report the result of said search, and if said writs, or either of them, are found, to transmit the same, along with his report, to the clerk of this process, Mr. Currie." From the terms of the remit it is evident that the sheriff would not have taken possession of the packet unless he considered there was *prima facie* ground for believing that it contained the missing papers.

Varieties.

FOOT ASLEEP.—Loving Wife: Charles, dear, I wish you would put down that horrid novel and talk to me; I feel so dull; and—oh, Charles! my foot's asleep.—Charles: Hush—sh, my dear, you might wake it.

BEGINNING OF THE DRUM.—The "spirit-stirring drum" is of quite ancient origin; representations of it occur in Egyptian sculptures of the sixteenth century, B.C. It was introduced into Europe by the Saracens, and played, probably for the first time, in France in 1317, on the entry of Edward the Third in Calais.

QUEER EPITAPH.—In High Wycombe church-yard, on Mr. Thomas Aldridge, aged ninety years:—

Of no distemper,

Of no blast he died;

But fell,

Like autumn-fruit

That's mellowed long.

Hean wondered at,

Because he drop no sooner.

Providence seemed to wind him up

For fourscore years; yet ran he on

Nine winters more; till like a clock,

Worn out with beating time,

At last stood still.

"HE'LL NEVER SET THE TEMSE ON FIRE"—Many years ago, before machinery was introduced into flour mills for the purpose of sifting the flour it was the custom of the miller to send it home unsifted. The process of sifting was done thus; but principally in Yorkshire. The "temse," or sieve, which was provided with a rim which projected from the bottom of it, was worked over the mouth of the barrel into which the flour or meal was sifted. An active fellow, who worked hard, not unfrequently set the rim of the "temse" on fire by force of friction against the rim of the flour-barrel; so that, in fact, this department of domestic employment became a standard by which to test a man's will or capacity to work hard; and thus of a lazy fellow, or one deficient in strength, it was said, "He will never set the temse on fire." The long misuse of the word temse for sieve, as well as the suspending of hand labour by machinery in this particular species of work, may possibly have tended to the substitution of sound for sense, in such phrases as "He will never set the Thames on fire," the Mersey on fire, or any other river. I do not recall having seen any notice of this phrase in "N. & Q." and should be glad to know whether it is familiar to many persons.—P., Burslem, Staffordshire.—Notes and Queries.

The following is an extract from the second edition (page 188) of the Translation of the Pharmacopœia of the Royal College of Physicians, of London, by Dr. G. F. Collier, published by Longman and Co.:—"It is no small defect in this compilation (speaking of the Pharmacopœia) that we have no purgative magis but what contains aloes; yet we know that hemorrhoidal persons cannot bear aloes, except it be in the form of COCKLE'S PILLS, which consist of aloes, sciamony, and colocynth, which I think are formed into a sort of compound extract the acridity of which is obviated, I suspect, by an alkaline process, and by a fourth ingredient (unknown to me) of an aromatic tincture. I take no better and no worse of it for its being a patent medicine." I look at it as an article of commerce and domestic convenience, and do not hesitate to say it is the best made pill in the kingdom; a muscular purge, a mucous purge, and a hydrocephal purge combined, and their effects properly controlled by a dirigent and corrigent. That it does not commonly produce diarrhoea, like most aetiole pills, I attribute to its being thoroughly soluble, so that no undissolved particles adhere to the mucous membrane."—(Advertisement.)

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